The Middlebury Campus

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College Plans to Fundraise for Growing Financial Aid

By ELAINE VELIE
News Editor

Although Middlebury College has yet to set targets for its goal to increase the number of students receiving financial aid, the incoming first year class will have more students on financial aid than this year's first year class. This unexpected increase is due to Middlebury's need blind admissions policy, and tuition has partially risen to cover the increased financial aid budget.

"That's not strategic, that's just because of our policy. We don't get to decide who sends in their deposit," said David Provost, the college treasurer. "The interesting part about financial aid is, because we're need blind, a lot of it's out of our control."

Middlebury currently lags behind its peers in the percentage of students on financial aid. With 44 percent of students on financial aid, Middlebury ranks seventh out of the eleven colleges in the NESCAC, according to an analysis of common data sets at each school.

The college also garnered negative attention last January for a New York Times article which showed that more students at Middlebury come from the top one percent of the income bracket (23 percent of students) than the bottom 60 percent (14 percent of students). Across all U.S. colleges and universities, Middlebury ranked ninth.

Another New York Times article cited in last week's issue of The Campus revealed that Middlebury recruits from rich, white high schools (on average, high school locations had a median family income of $101,000 and were 57 percent white). According to this article, the college ranked near the middle of peer institutions.

Although President Laurie L. Patton has announced her aim to increase both the percentage of students on financial aid and the amount of financial aid awarded, the college has not yet established target numbers. This is largely due to the college's current financial position, which puts pressure on tuition, rather than the endowment, to cover ever-increasing costs including financial aid, according to Provost.

"I'm trying to fix two problems

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BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The Middlebury women's lacrosse team beat Bowdoin 13-10 this past Sunday, May 6, on home turf, winning the team their ninth NESCAC championship. The team will compete in the NCAA tournament later this month.

Athletes of Color Form Group in Response to Lack of Diversity

By NICOLE POLLACK
Staff Writer

The percentage of students of color on sports teams is lower than Middlebury's already low percentage of students of color on campus. Middlebury is 63 percent white, and of the college's 2561 students, only 25 percent identify as domestic US students of color, according to the fall 2017 student profile.

For student athletes of color, this reality can feel isolating.

Sebastian Sanchez, one of two athletes of color on the baseball team, reached out to Olivia Bravo '20, Chellsa Ferdinand '20, Jourdon Delerme '20 and Diego Meritus '19, members of the softball, volleyball, football and football teams, respectively, about starting a club for people of color (PoC) in sports. The resulting organization, Student Athletes of Color, is funded directly by the athletic department. It recently held its first official meet-and-greet and was received enthusiastically by the student body.

The club's members hope Student Athletes of Color will create an informal space in which they can build a strong community.

"I am the only PoC on my team," Bravo said. "Coming into the school I would have loved a PoC mentor to guide me through this adjustment and to share their experiences with race on campus."

Student Athletes of Color's three main goals focus on its leaders' own experiences of being recruits and subsequent members of sports teams on campus. Their mission statement is to "provide opportunities for athletes of color to meet others outside of their respective teams."

The club aims to help athletes at all levels develop support networks within the community. They want to offer all athletes of color a space that helps them "navigate the racial and ethnic experiences that exist in the Middlebury community."

Bravo said the strong relationships between members of individual teams are not shared between members of different teams.

"As PoC we immediately see each other in the athletic facilities and maybe give each other a smile or a head nod, but there is no relationship beyond that. I think that is our biggest goal, to change that," Bravo said.

Amherst College has a Student Athletes of Color group, and a friend of Meritus' is working to form one at Williams College. The group believes Student Athletes of Color would also be of interest to other colleges in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (Nescac) and hopes to eventually form a Nescac-wide organization.

"I think this is a very realistic goal, and is something I can see happening before I graduate in the next few years," Bravo said.

Patton Forms New Cabinet of Senior Administrators

By BOCHU DING
Senior Writer

President Laurie L. Patton announced changes this week within the senior leadership group, the 17-member advisory council. A nine-member cabinet will be formed out of that group to "improve the efficiency of decision making" in Old Chapel.

The new cabinet represents some of Patton's closest advisors. It includes provost Jeff Cason, treasurer David Provost, spokesman Bill Burger, diversity officer Miguel Fernandez, advancement VP Colleen Fitzpatrick, human resources VP Karen Miller, general counsel Hannah Ross, dean of students Baishakhi Taylor, and chief of staff Dave Donahue.

The non-cabinet members of the senior leadership group include admissions dean Greg Buckles, academic officials Andi Lloyd and Tim Spears, philanthropic advisor Mike Schoenfeld, and representatives from the schools — Jeff Dayton-Johnson, Stephen Snyder and Carlos Velez.

With the announcement, Patton fulfilled a pledge to faculty to maintain the costs of SLG and to shrink its size. But the change to a smaller cabinet does not demonstrate an actual change in executive compensation. In an interview, spokesman Bill Burg-

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College Executives Make Up Elite of Addison County

By AMELIA POLLARD
Local Editor

In recent months, executive pay has sparked controversy among faculty, staff and students as tax forms and op-eds have prompted a negative response to the salaries of the college's top administrators.

Executives at universities across the country earn high salaries as the competitive job market continues to bolster these positions in the realm of academia.

The question, then, isn't only why administrators have in the past earned "stay bonuses," or why some of them earn nearly four times the amount of the average associate professor, but what such a high salary looks like in comparison to the greater economic landscape of Middlebury and Addison County.

Physics professor Noah Graham ignited a wave of criticism over these top officials' salaries after publishing the op-ed, "Executive Pay and Why It Matters" in the March 15 issue of The Campus. In the op-ed, Graham focused on "stay bonuses." Executive salaries were augmented by additional "stay bonuses," or payouts

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Homecoming Parade Wins Tradition Contest

By ELAINE VELIE
and ETHAN BRADY
News Editor and Editor in Chief

The college announced the winner of the new traditions contest this week. The winning entry, submitted by sophomores Emily Barnard, Ben Snow, Kate Zecca and Sophia Peluso, will be a "Panther Day" parade from downtown Middlebury to the Kirk Alumni Center.

The pep band and the panther mascot will lead the parade, which will culminate in food, music and sports games. The inaugural Panther Day will be Saturday, Oct. 20, during Homecoming weekend.

"The contest selection committee ultimately agreed on Panther Day because it celebrates our history and diversity, while allowing student groups to express their creativity through the floats, banners or dress in the parade," said President Laurie L. Patton.

"We also hope Panther Day will revitalize and enrich homecoming as a campus-wide fall event," Patton said.

Nocturne, the nighttime arts festival held last Saturday, was entered in the traditions competition but did not win. The event allowed students to display and perform many types of art not necessarily in relation to students' academics. The event was both well attended and well-received.

Patton said that many of the non-winning proposals could be incorporated into Panther Day.

Hannah Morrissey '18 and art history professor Glenn Andres served as the co-chairs of the committee of students and faculty that selected the winning tradition.

The Panther Day parade recalls similar events in the college's history. The academic processions for convocation and commencement descend from 19th-century processions from campus to the Congregational Church in town, where college ceremonies were held before the construction of Mead Chapel in 1915.

In the early 1900s, Middlebury students joined children in town for a Maypole dance on May Day. That era, known for the Beaux Arts movement, became the basis for a winter masquerade ball hosted by architecture students in 2006. Guests at the Beaux Arts ball donned masks and tuxedos to celebrate the end of exams. The grand event ultimately did not become a tradition.

SILVIA CANTU BAUTISTA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Students showed off works of art and performance last Saturday night at the Nocturne arts festival. See A8 for more.

GSFS Game Night Explores Feminist and Queer Theories

By EMMA PATCH
Editor-at-Large

The Gender Sexuality and Feminist Studies Department (GSFS) hosted the first ever themed game night last Friday in the Chateau Grand Salon. Students and faculty came together to explore feminist and queer theory through games designed and created by students in two GSFS classes.

Professor Carly Thomsen taught both classes, Politics of Reproduction and Introduction to Queer Critique. The intention of the students' projects was to translate academic texts into an accessible form. The gathering filled the Grand Salon to capacity.

"I was really surprised to see how many students showed up" said Professor J. Finley of the American Studies department.

Although some professors who attended merely observed while students played, Finley played a Jenga game inspired by Foucault.

"I was really impressed by the absorption of really complex theoretical material and the ability of the people who made that game to make it into something that was engaging in an interesting and fun way."

Spanish professor Rohe-no-Madrazo also played Foucault

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LOCAL

Maple Run brings community together
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OPINION

If Middlebury had a metro system
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ARTS

"Enron" pokes fun at American business world
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Korean Culture Show Celebrates Asian Art
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SPORTS

Women's Lacrosse Wins Nescac on Kohn Field
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JOHN SCHURER/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Distinguished Men of Color hosted their annual Block Party on Saturday, May 5.

Patton Forms New Presidential Cabinet Out of SLG

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er said that compensation is not increased or decreased when a person is either designated or removed from a senior leadership position.

"Just because they are not sitting on the senior leadership group does not mean that you (do not) need that person in the job they have," Burger said. "You could make a decision to not have the head of schools abroad and the language schools sit in the (senior leadership) group, it still does not mean you do not need the head of schools abroad and language schools," he said.

Provost added, "Their pay is for their job, whether they are on one committee or another."

When asked where the cost-saving measures would occur if compensation was not altered by shrinking the size of the SLG, Provost and Burger pointed to a more long-term strategy of either merging roles or organization restructuring after key individuals resign.

"When Katy Smith Abbott stepped down, (Patton) took two student life positions and made it one," Provost said. "So that is one fewer SLG member. That demonstrates (Patton's) commitment to that. I wouldn't be surprised if we see more of that."

Burger added, "You might have people leave over time and then you do not replace them — that is a possibility. Sometimes these (changes) are done through organizational changes."

The announcement comes at a time of increased scrutiny for administrators, who faced criticism for the practice of "stay bonuses" involved in the 2015 presidential transition.

During Patton's briefing at the faculty meeting, she cited that costs of the SLG were already $300,000 less than the previous year. In an interview with The Campus, Provost supported Patton's claim by citing a lack of increases for executives in the previous year.

"Last year there was zero [net change] for anyone with a salary of $200,000 and above — no increases for senior leadership last year," he said.

According to research done by faculty, executive bonuses and payouts were above market-competitive rates. In the context of the college's financial crisis and increasing tuition fees, some argued that these policies were a gross mismanagement of college finances.

Treasurer David Provost has argued that stay bonus payouts appearing on the 990 tax form made executive pay look higher in some years, but that base compensation has consistently been in line with market rates.

The bonuses effectively encourage key officials to remain at Middlebury during presidential transitions, two administrators said, and that years that appear especially high in executive compensation are the result of stay bonuses and should not be viewed as the norm.

Two officials close to the president said that while she intended to reduce the number and size of stay bonuses, she would not commit to ending the practice altogether.

"I'm still interested in maintaining a very modest use of these bonuses because they are used in higher ed to prevent a kind of constant searching and turning over," Patton said during a faculty meeting in February. "But as you saw from the data, my interest and commitment to them is very modest. They are one tool among many, and I am committed to moving to most of those other tools before we do that."

During the same meeting, college treasurer David Provost revealed that beginning in 2009, 11 different retention bonuses were distributed among seven administrators. The compensation ranged from annual amounts of $50,000 to $100,000, with total payouts summing $150,000 to $250,000. His presentation also revealed that Middlebury's total executive pay of $4.1 million was higher than the $3.6 million average of peer institutions.

Three administrators are have stay bonuses that are still being paid out: provost Jeff Cason, admissions dean Greg Buckles and finance VP Mike Thomas. Bonuses are only paid when the recipient stays at Middlebury for the agreed-upon number of years.

At the faculty meeting in February, Provost reported an additional bonus for President Liebowitz that had not yet been disclosed in form 990 filings. Because the college received an extension to the reporting deadline last November, the amount of this bonus will only be made public on May 15.

JOHN SCHURER/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

President Laurie L. Patton held open office hours outside the student center on May 2.

EMMA STAPLETON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Students basked in the warm weather at Lake Dumnore this weekend.

College Aims to Increase Aid

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right now," said Provost, who began as treasurer last January.

"One is that we have an operating deficit, which we're taking down. The second problem was, when I arrived, we had been taking 6.6 percent out of our endowment a year. Of our peer institutions, the average is 4.7."

Provost aims to eliminate the deficit by 2021 and to decrease endowment withdrawal to five percent.

"In the last few years — why tuition has gone up — it's been an effort to help with this deficit and the withdraw," Provost said.

"I believe longer term, that will put us in a better financial position, that will take pressure off tuition."

Currently, 75 percent of the $53 million financial aid budget is covered by tuition, and 25 percent is covered by the endowment. Provost aims to increase the percentage covered by the endowment.

"If that was 35, 40 percent because we had a bigger endowment, more students are going to have accessibility, or it's going to take pressure off of tuition increases," Provost said.

To allow the endowment to grow, the college must focus on withdrawing less money from it now. The college will most likely announce a plan to increase the number of students on financial aid within the next year or two.

"We've been having a series of conversations at leadership as well as with the board...of what targets should be," Provost said.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Laurie Patton

Once the college creates specific goals (like a target percentage of students on financial aid) it can start a campaign to raise money. Last week, Dartmouth launched a $3 billion campaign that includes allocations for financial aid, and peer institutions initiate similar campaigns frequently. These multi-million dollar campaigns call on alumni to donate.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

David Provost

"We are in the early planning stages," Provost said.

The campaign will align with a strategy decided upon by Envisioning Middlebury, Provost said. Introduced in April 2016, Envisioning Middlebury is President Patton's framework which aims to involve students, faculty and staff in conversation about the College's future. It was responsible for the new mission statement. In February, with the endorsement of the Board of Trustees, Envisioning Middlebury published three "transformative goals" for the college.

The eventual campaign will call on donors for support for more than just financial aid, but financial aid will play an important role.

"The pieces that get generated for the next campaign will be built on that foundation," Provost said.

Perhaps this campaign will allow Middlebury to address the alarming lack of economic diversity within the student body.

Provost responded to a question about selling the idea of financial aid and accessibility to donors.

"I'm in higher education for the reason of what education represents. Neither one of my parents went to college, they put five sons through college, all five of us are wildly successful in our professional lives because of education," Provost said.

"We as a society and a country know the power of education, so the ability to give financial aid to those who otherwise wouldn't have the means to get a Middlebury education is extremely powerful, not as an individual, as a society," Provost said.

"Laurie's passionate about that."

GSFS CURRICULUM EXPLORED AT GAME NIGHT

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Jenga.

"I played Foucault's Discourse Jenga, about how our societal discourses about sexual repression and oppression keep repeating in a self-perpetuating loop until they topple and get rebuilt...sometimes in very similar ways," he said.

This game night started out as an assignment but ultimately manifested itself into a game night open to all. The intention of the students' projects was to translate academic texts into an accessible form.

"What Carly [Thomsen] does is she really finds a way to bring the learning out of the classroom. The work she does to draw people into feminist work is great," Finley said.

Finley and Thomsen are teaching a class called Beyond Intersectionality next spring, which will host a series of workshops and a symposium.

Thomsen stresses the importance of translation in her courses. The students' desire to actualize their knowledge of what was going on in the world was the impetus for thinking about developing games as a class project.

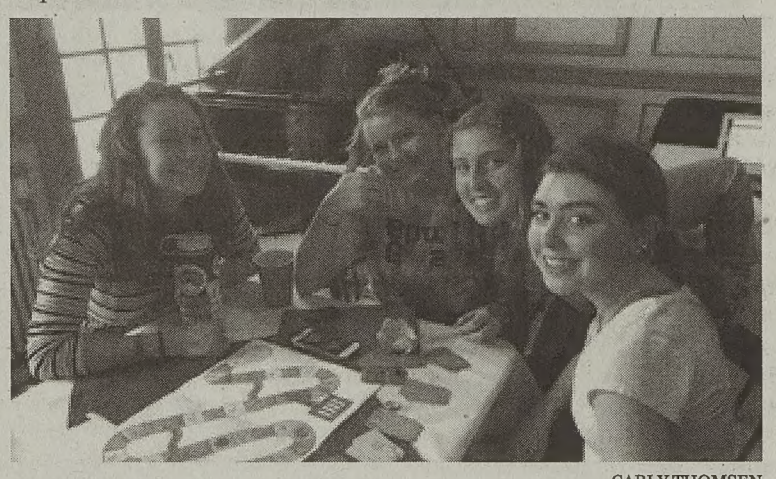
"In a lot of Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies classes we read a lot of theoretical work or work that surprises students and sometimes angers students. And at the end of classes I used to always be asked, what do we do with this information?" Thomsen said.

The students' desire to actualize their knowledge of what was going on in the world pushed Thomsen to make developing games a class project. Without the tools or the knowledge to change any of the problems that students were discovering through their studies, an opportunity to expand the feminist and queer studies syllabi arose.

But Thomsen has long used translation based assignments in her courses.

"In all my classes, instead of writing just a final paper, students do what I call a translation assignment and so they take one text, one academic text, and think about how they would turn it into an alternative format for an alternative audience, one beyond our classroom. The point of this is two-fold. In order to talk about a text in the world you have to know it in a far deeper and more complicated way than you do if the other people with whom you are talking have also engaged with that text," Thomsen said.

"I think in this political climate it is especially important to be able to talk with people who we might not agree with," she said.



CARLY THOMSEN

Students try out games at the game night last Friday in the Chateau.

State Renews Effort to Address Opioid Addiction

By ISABEL EMSFELD
Staff Writer

Every day, over 115 people die from an opioid overdose in the United States. The leading cause of death for Americans under the age of 50 is drug overdose. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that the "economic burden" of prescription opioid misuse alone in the United States is $78.5 billion a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment and criminal justice involvement, according to the National Institution on Drug Abuse.

These statistics are startling. Opioid addiction is a pervasive and dangerous epidemic that continues to plague Vermont and the greater country. While this crisis may seem hopeless, many states, including Vermont, are making remarkable progress in the fight against opioid and heroin addiction.

One major issue that Vermont is tackling is the instigation of opioid-addiction treatment for prisoners; the Senate recently voted to improve opioid rehabilitation programs. On Friday, April 27 representatives from the House pushed to expand the program even further, giving final approval to bill S.166.

The bill was proposed "to enable opioid-dependent inmates to receive medication-assisted treatment in State correctional facilities from providers employed by opioid treatment programs throughout the State." As the bill defines, "'medication-assisted treatment' means the use of certain medications, including either methadone or buprenorphine, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies for the treatment of a substance use disorder."

Vermont has had success with their "hub and spoke" system, which offers buprenorphine and methadone distributed by "hubs" spread geographically across the state. These programs also employ 77 physician officers, who provide other options for medication-assisted treatment.

The hub and spoke patient number is approaching 3,500. Additionally, surveys have shown a "dramatic reduction" in drug use, overdoses, hospital visits and arrests (VTDigger), demonstrating the efficacy of these programs.

However, not everyone has access to such programs or to medication-assisted rehabilitation. Currently, prisoners that enter the system without a prescription are not entitled to start methadone or buprenorphine treatments. This causes inmates to have withdrawal, which has proven to lead to higher risk of relapse and overdose (VTDigger).

Without the proper support or resources, prisoners in the state of Vermont suffering from opioid addictions are vulnerable to addiction once released, and the crisis is perpetuated.

To counter this cycle, S.166 adds methadone and buprenorphine to the list of drugs approved for inmates to continue receiving while in the system. Additionally, it allows prisoners who did not previously have a prescription to receive buprenorphine.

It also implements a screening for opioid addiction within 24 hours of the inmate's imprisonment.

According to the VTDigger, the expansion of methadone prescriptions in prisons represented a source of some concern for the Vermont Corrections Department especially in light of stringent federal regulations on the drug. Consequently, in lieu of setting up an independent distribution system for methadone, the department plans to continue use of the "hub and spoke" system.

The bill also mandates that medication-assisted treatment be required in the release plan for inmates who need it. Additionally, the House added some revisions to the bill that require the Corrections Department to evaluate the success and effectiveness of the program by January 2022. The House also revised the Senate's 120-day time limit for medical-assisted treatment to "as long as medically necessary."

The bill now must be sent back to the Senate for approval with the new revisions from the House. In addition to the hub and spoke system and bill S.166, Vermont has implemented several other methods to combat opioid and heroin drug abuse and addiction.

On Saturday, April 28, 2018, several dozen Vermont towns designated locations that were open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for people to get rid of drugs, part of the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Last year, state collection sites together collected over two and a half tons of drugs during the state's one day event (Vermont Public Radio).

As Vermont Health Commissioner Mark Levine told the Vermont Edition, "Drugs that are left at home unused in medicine cabinets are fertile ground for abuse." According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, about 21 to 29 percent of patients prescribed opioids for chronic pain misuse them. Between eight and 12 percent develop an opioid use problem. Additionally, four to six percent of people who misuse opioids transition to heroin.

A new report from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont shows that the "state's new limit on painkiller prescriptions is having a big effect on the number of

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BENJY RENTON

Runners take on the Middlebury Maple Run half marathon.

Maple Run Brings Together College and Town

By CHLOE FLEISCHER
Contributing Writer

Over the past weekend, Middlebury students and townspeople alike laced up their sneakers to join in the Middlebury Maple Run. This half marathon and relay run, which took place on Sunday, May 6, is nicknamed "The Sweetest Half" for the pancakes and fresh maple syrup that finishers enjoy at the finish line.

This year, the race celebrated its 10th anniversary since the race's conception in 2009 by a group of running enthusiasts. In its first race, the event supported a field of 225 runners, which has since grown to about 850 in 2017 and a field of 840 runners this year.

Since the event's conception, several new components have been added, including the option for a two person relay race or a three-mile fun run. These options help to generate a more family friendly atmosphere and have created the opportunity for almost 100 local elementary students to register for the fun run this year. All three races used the same start and finish line at Porter Hospital with the estimated 550 half marathon and relay runners beginning at 9 a.m. and the estimated 250 fun run runners starting at 9:15 a.m.

The Maple Run serves as an "annual tradition for many who live locally," celebrating its 10th anniversary this year.

The finish line pancake breakfast was added in 2015 along with music played by student musicians of the college on the course route. The race has also begun to award a beautiful wooden medal for all finishers and provide maple run t-shirts upon entry. The Middlebury College bookstore even offered a discount of 20% off of one item for students who brought their race bib to the bookstore on Monday, May 7, the day after the race.

Sue Hoxie, the race co-director, told the Addison County Independent that they've "always tried to add something new or different every year of the race to make it interesting and keep runners coming back. But, what has remained the same over the years are the friendly volunteers, a beautiful, scenic race course, and a desire to support the local economy and Addison County nonprofit organizations." She explained that the race has become a draw for many runners in New England and "an annual tradition for many who live locally."

BENJY RENTON

One runner equipped with a Wonder Woman headband.

This year the event has implemented two new programs to help runners reach their goals: a free 16-week training program as well as race pacing for goal finish times of 1 hour 40 minutes, 1:50, 2:00, 2:15 and 2:30.

The race is supported by the Middlebury Police, the Middlebury Regional EMS, which includes a number of students, and more than 100 volunteers with aid stations every 2.5 miles. "I picked to work the event outside of my normal schedule, as did all the other MREMS staff present at the event. I thought it would be a fun way to engage with the greater Middlebury community and also gain some valuable experience working as an EMT," said Liam Hahn, a student member of the Regional EMS. "The race went extremely well and we were lucky to only have a few minor bumps and bruises. It was fun to watch all the amazing runners, especially many of my friends, classmates, and even one of my professors run such a difficult race."

The half-marathon course is a mix of paved roads and hard-packed dirt roads with several elevation changes, including some longer hills but nothing extraordinarily steep with the biggest uphill in the first half. The 3-mile fun run includes a loop mostly on the Middlebury Campus grounds, which is a subset of the larger half-marathon course. Jack Allnutt placed first in the 0-19

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Executive Pay and the Financial Powerhouse of Addison County

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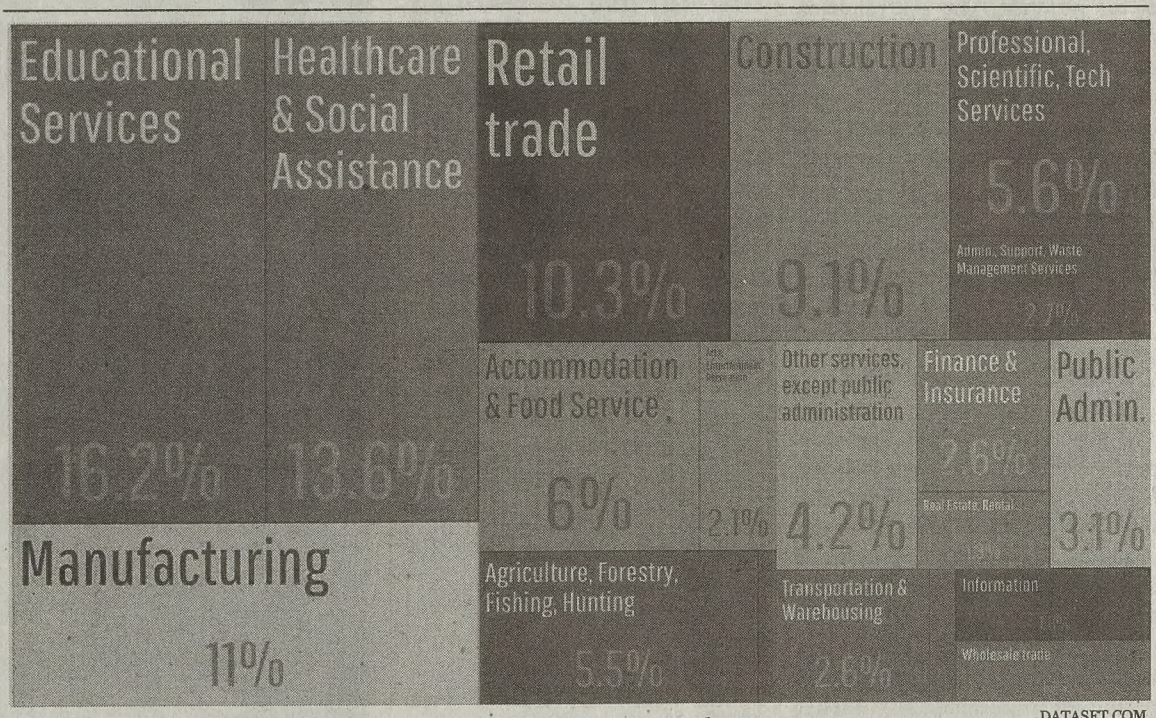
received after a certain number of years an administrator stays at Middlebury, to incentivize top administrators to remain at Middlebury during the presidential transition. Jeff Cason, interim provost and vice president of academic affairs, Mike Thomas, vice president for finance, and Gregory Buckles, dean of admissions, are the three remaining recipients of stay bonuses.

At a faculty meeting last month, President Laurie Patton and treasurer David Provost touched on some of the issues regarding executive pay that have been circulating through the campus-wide debate this spring.

The college has made an effort to provide transparent documents displaying comparative average salaries and total compensation between professors and peer institutions (Figure 1). Though the same kind of data for administrators' salaries, adjusted for cost-of-living and aligned alongside other New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) colleges, is not available in the same format online, Provost did present similar data at the faculty meeting.

14 percent of Addison County's population receives some economic benefit, making the college a financial powerhouse in the state.

According to the report "The Economic and Community Impact of Middlebury College" issued in 2014, the college is the largest employer in both the town of Middlebury and Addison County, with one in every 10 residents working for the institution. According to the report, 14 percent of the county's population receive some economic benefit, due to direct employment at the college and the ripple effect of the college's presence in the county.



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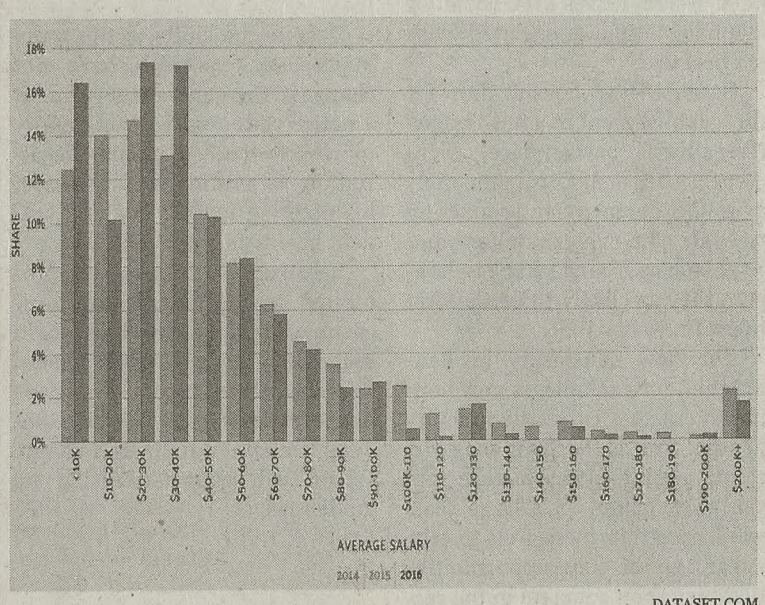
The percent of citizens in Addison County working in various employment sectors.

The Bowen National Research's annual report on Addison County found that the median household income is $61,020, which is around 5 percent greater than the national median. The median property value is $236,400, nearly 14 percent greater than nationally.

Middlebury's salaries for its top executives are in stark contrast to the rest of the county's finances. The comparisons of average household income in Addison County to that of top administrators could be seen as a tired rant against the top 1 percent. But the college's influence on the county and town's workforce justifies the recent scrutiny of the optics of high salaries in the context of Addison County.



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Addison is on the right in comparison to national data.

BENJY RENTON

The middle of the Middlebury Farmers' Market on a bright Saturday morning.

Marijuana in Vermont: What's Been Happening and What's to Come

By KENSHIN CHO
Staff Writer

Over the past year, the legal use of marijuana has been attracting more and more attention in Vermont. Just last month, PhytoCare, a cannabis company from Waterbury, opened the state's fifth licensed medical marijuana dispensary in Bennington.

The dispensary is capitalizing on the interest in cannabis as a treatment option for a variety of medical conditions. Owners of PhytoCare expected about 20 registered patients at opening day, but demand swelled, and 86 people had already registered, according to the VTDigger.

With more interest, laws governing the legal use of marijuana continue to evolve. But the changes have been accompanied by some confusion. What's legal and what's not? Where can you buy weed? Can't you just smoke already?

It's high time that The Campus bring together all the recent news and laws to give a snapshot of marijuana regulation, production and consumption in the state today.

(ALMOST) LEGAL

Signed into law in January, Bill H.511 is the most significant victory for the legalization movement so far, allowing recreational marijuana use for adults over the age of 21. It will go into effect on July 1, meaning that possession today is still illegal. And there will be limits.

Compared to the laws of other states that have legalized recreational use, Vermont's is one of the strictest. The bill removes penalties for possessing up to one ounce of marijuana. But buying or selling in the state remains illegal. Instead, people can grow up to two mature and four immature plants at home.

There are also provisions in the bill that increase criminal penalties for those who sell to minors.

MEDICAL USE CONTINUES TO RISE

Since 2004, when the first medical marijuana law passed the legislature, the number of patients has grown every year to reach around 5,000 today, according to data from the Vermont Marijuana Registry. Every patient is required to register with one of five licensed dispensaries, and is only permitted to purchase treatments from that facility. The highly regulated system leaves little room for loopholes often associated with medical use.

Because H.511 doesn't allow for the establishment of a full-fledged recreational marketplace, these dispensaries maintain a monopoly over the commercial production and sale of marijuana in Vermont. That means if any changes happen, they are likely to be the first to profit, writes VPR.

The new dispensary in Bennington, for example, is now hoping to create a cultivation facility nearby. And if the plan goes forward, owning infrastructure that can grow plants on a large scale would position them well to take advantage of any opportunities that may soon come up in the recreational space.

Meanwhile, new state laws are continuing to facilitate medical marijuana. Last June, Act 65 went into effect, authorizing existing dispensaries to open one additional branch each, as well as to allow for a sixth license when the number of patients reaches 7,000. Due to this law, several dispensaries are looking at new locations, including Middlebury, in which to build additional branches.

THE PUSH TO TAX AND REGULATE

According to a 2015 report by Rand Corporation, people in Vermont collectively spend about $165 million every year on marijuana. For the state, the figure represents a significant potential source of tax revenue.

Supporters of legalization are itching to take the system to the next stage— implementing a full tax and regulate structure that states like Colorado have. In fact, two weeks ago, lawmakers in the Vermont House brought up a bill hoping to do exactly that. The bill faced fierce resistance from both Democrats and Republicans, which, with the legislative session ending in a few weeks, would leave little time to flesh out specific details. As a result, the house voted 106 to 28 against the plan.

Still, many lawmakers are hesitant to vote for full legalization. Governor Phil Scott has repeatedly said that he would only consider new bills when his marijuana advisory commission comes back with recommendations on addressing safety concerns.

Compared to the laws of other states that have legalized recreational use, Vermont's is one of the strictest.

In particular, police are concerned about the difficulty of issuing marijuana-related DUIs, since there are no breathalyzers for the drug. A proposal in the Vermont Senate Judiciary Committee would have authorized the use of roadside saliva testing, but that was also rejected last week. Without a clear threshold to determine influence, lawmakers felt that the test was unreasonable.

H.511 will remain the standard for the near future.

STILL PROHIBITED AT THE COLLEGE

Despite the shifts in the state, Middlebury's policies have not changed. The general council sent a notice to the school community in response to Vermont's legalization reiterating this message, highlighting federal law and student health as main concerns.

Because the drug is still prohibited on the federal level, any easing of Middlebury rules would jeopardize its access to federal funds. With more than $22 million of federal financial aid money at stake, it's unlikely that the school will consider easing its guidelines.

Farmers' Market Kicks Off Spring Season

By JAEHEE PARK
Staff Writer

The Middlebury Farmers' Market (MFM) started its summer market season last Saturday, May 5, featuring a variety of products including fresh produce, prepared foods and other Vermont crafts. This year's outdoor summer market will run every Saturday and Wednesday morning from 9:00am to 12:30pm until Oct. 27. The Middlebury Farmers' Market is especially known for its variety in organic vegetable and dairy items.

The summer market, unlike in the winter season, is held outdoors and offers a wider variety of different products. The summer season also brings musicians and special events such as the Grand Opening on May 26, Dairy Day on June 16, Red White and Blue Day on July 7, and the Harvest Festival on Oct. 13. This year's summer market has also reached out to community partners for more special events like Homeward Bound's meet and greet with dogs up for adoption this past Saturday.

While MFM was previously located at Marble Works, the ongoing rail bridge construction project led to a permanent relocation last summer to 530 Exchange Street, a less visible location from downtown Middlebury. "It's a shame that there isn't more interest from the city and downtown retailers to support a more centrally located Farmer's Market," said Laura Quill of Quill Hill Farms about the new location.

Though the past location was more easily accessible to pedestrians, the market has worked to make both parking and biking easier at the center for Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). "The VFW does have its advantages," said MFM's promotions and outreach liaison Elisabeth Woronzoff. "More space for more vendors, a beautiful green space to sit and enjoy the event, easy access to an ATM, a new and improved parking methodology and access to other great businesses located on Exchange Street."

Still, MFM remains a significant component of Middlebury's community. "Addison County is so rich in resources that our market can offer an amazing assortment of fruits and vegetables, cheeses, meat, breads, crafts, and other products," Woronzoff said. "The vendors are also creative and interested in experimentation, so you never really know what products are available until you stroll through their offerings."

For instance, Quill Hill Farm tries to stand out in the market by offering a more unusual variety of vegetable products, including unique heirloom tomato starts, mixed purple green beans, spicy chili peppers, and distinctive garlic powders. "Our garlic powders are also unique in that they are a small batch made using a blend of eight varieties of garlic where some are spicier or sweeter," said Quill. "We also dehydrate at lower temperature than traditional commercial garlic powders, which gives our powder a really deep, fresh flavor that you don't get from garlic powder in the store."

"At the market we swap recipes with customers, see babies grow bigger, share in sadness and triumphs of life, and simpl enjoy getting off the farm for a few hours a week being part of a like-minded commmunity."

Woronzoff said that MFM is unique because "our vendors are also willing to collaborate with each other and other businesses in town. Having our vendors come together to show how their products work together is a key element to engaging customers."

For some farms like Quill Hill Farm, MFM is crucial because restaurants and co-ops typically pay only 50 percent of the cost of the wholesale product, while the farm can sell to customers at full price at markets. Their sales at markets comprise half of their income. The market is also an opportunity for farms to expose tourists to their unique products, which can aid in progress toward online purchasing. However, selling at the farmer's market does not come without its challenges.

"One of the largest struggles we face here in Vermont with the Farmers' Market is population size. Vermont just doesn't have a lot of people, so while you as a farmer can produce tons of food, selling that food is difficult," said Hill. "It's also a struggle to figure out supply and demand of products/what customers will want that week. It's often a guessing game which makes it especially challenging when your product is so perishable."

Beyond the business, farms still consider the farmers' market a rewarding venture. Hill said, " I love talking to customers and sharing farming stories and educating people on growing organically." The market provides an opportunity for vendors to interact directly with their customers and to share growing techniques and farming philosophies, Hill explained. "At the market we swap recipes with customers, see babies grow bigger, share in sadness and triumphs of life, learn all sorts of new things, and simply enjoy getting off the farm for a few hours a week being a part of a like-minded community."

The MFM has also impacted individuals in the town of Middlebury beyond its farmers by bringing in many people from outside the town, who then stay for activities and events around town. "Essentially, the Middlebury Farmers' Market contributes to the local economy and acts as a community hub," said Woronzoff. "But the market also impacts more than the town, it has a huge impact on the county as well. Our vendors are from across the county, thereby creating an interconnection across sweeping farmland. That interconnection is an advantage for the town but then expands even further across the county. Our emphasis is on the local and that supports the individual and the collective."

Woronzoff is also excited about the future of MFM and hopes to see it continue to expand and evolve. "Whether that means doing more outreach with community partners, hosting more vendors, or offering an even greater variety of products," said Woronzoff, "the market must grow to ensure the success while contributing to our local economy."

BENJY RENTON

Scones and prints featured at the farmers' market last weekend.

10th Maple Run Deemed Success

Continued from A3

age category and said, "It was a tough hilly course but the weather was perfect and it was pretty fun."

Mistaya Smith also ran the half marathon and said that "it was a really great community event because so many students came out to run, but also faculty members and Middlebury families. I would definitely recommend it to anyone, even if you've never run that far before, because it's a ton of fun and you can't ask for a more beautiful place to run!"

The race acts as a fundraiser for local charities and since the event's inception in 2009, the Middlebury Maple Run "has donated more than $60,000 to area non-profits" according to the Addison County Independent. Proceeds are now distributed through a grant program with six non-profits receiving funding this year, including Dinners with Love, Hospice Volunteer Services, Middlebury Summer Lunch Program, Open Door Clinic, Special Olympics and the TurningPoint Center of Addison County.

An Update on the State's Opioid Crisis

Continued from A3

such pills distributed in the state. Since the rules went into effect on July 1, the "average number of opioid pills dispensed to [Blue Cross Blue Shield] members each month has fallen 25 percent," the insurer said. Blue Cross Blue Shield estimates that its members will get 672,000 fewer opioid pills annually due to the state's new rules (VTDigger).

The trends are clear; opioids have huge potential to be abused and are serious causes of addiction, incarceration and death. It is imperative that the state continue taking steps to resolve what has become a national epidemic.

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The Arts Need Real Support

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

This weekend was the first Nocturne, a late-night, student-run arts festival. From Saturday night at 9:00 until 2:00 a.m. the following morning, Middlebury's lawns and buildings transformed into outdoor art galleries, performance spaces and screening rooms.

A projector issued a wall-length projection of a fish tank onto Painter Hall, glowing a deep, underwater blue against the gray stone. A variety of student musicians invited dance party after dance party outside of McCullough. Beyond mere unconventional fun, Nocturne's success also seems cause for two important considerations: first, the student body wants (and is eager to participate in) more inclusive arts programming; and second, the school ought to commit more funding to the arts.

Those who attended Saturday night's festivities were struck not only by the scale of the event, but also the diversity of performers and participants. Spectators flowed in from all corners of campus, be they artists, athletes, physics majors, or all of the above. This was due in large part to the event's open nature; since anyone could submit work, artists beyond those enrolled in studio art, music or theatre classes could display or perform pieces, and their friends came in support. Not only that, but the event was entirely free, inviting students of all socioeconomic backgrounds to participate.

As it stands, Middlebury offers a number of spaces for performance and studio art. That said, these spaces can be extraordinarily isolating. The CFA is located in the far corner of campus, and aside from classes and the occasional performance receives little traffic. While Johnson is relatively central, the classrooms within are isolated and barred by heavy, locked doors. Not only that, but Johnson's very infrastructure is failing. The building is plagued by leaky ceilings and inaccessible freight elevators. The physical abandonment of Johnson is reflective of our community's general apathy toward the arts on campus, at both a physical and fiscal level.

The problem isn't just Johnson: it is the lack of modern, innovative spaces in general for the arts. The arts community at Middlebury needs more than the lukewarm support it currently receives. The reality is that we simply don't have a space for all students to share in communal art. The current college museum has collections that far outnumber the gallery spaces, meaning that many pieces of art in storage never actually see the light of day.

Seniors in the architecture department dedicated their thesis studio to solving this problem. Over the course of J-term, 15 students developed designs comprehensive plans for a new art museum. If Middlebury committed serious funding to the arts, perhaps donors would be encouraged to fund bold projects like this new museum. If on the other hand the arts are not made a priority here, Middlebury will continue to fall behind peer schools like Colby and Williams that are quickly becoming leaders in the arts.

There are some ongoing spaces on campus that, like Nocturne, strive to offer opportunities for collaborative artwork that strengthen community bonds. The Anderson Freeman Center (AFC) is decorated with student-made art. Members of the community were allowed to help memorialize and decorate the building. Last year, the artist Will "KASSO" Condry, along with senior studio art major Zarai Zaragoza, collaborated to design and complete a large mural.

Since its inception three years ago, the AFC has been a space for the underrepresented communities at Middlebury. The new mural in McCullough, for example, was part of an initiative to bring the voices of POC artists to Middlebury. Spaces like the AFC and the new mural in McCullough are a part of the initiative to showcase art representative of the minority voices here. Through art, these students are given a platform for illustrating and validating their experiences.

The administration has voiced its desire to build community, and arts initiatives like murals and Nocturne contribute to this process. Nocturne was expansive enough to provide a space for cultural groups dance performances to hand controlled kaleidoscope projections to poetry readings.

Nocturne is what a vibrant student life looks like. As that event showed, the arts are a mode through which we can all share our lived experiences, build community, form identity and examine ourselves. This cannot happen without dedicated support for students' artistic endeavors. In short, the arts at Middlebury deserve serious funding, not just token acknowledgment.

Trustees: We Voted. Now It's Your Turn.

By DIVEST MIDDLEBURY

The recent SGA referendum to divest Middlebury's endowment from fossil fuels passed with 80 percent support. Clearly, our student body is calling for divestment. This raises the question: Why hasn't the Board of Trustees voted to divest?

Students came out in record numbers to show their support for divestment. This election boasted a 68 percent voter turnout, representing over a 100 percent increase from last year. This is not just tacit approval — it demonstrates an active "endorsement to divest all endowment assets" by demanding that "Trustees vote in favor and begin the divestment process" during the Fall 2018 board meeting. Our student body insists that we hold our endowment accountable.

By divesting, we would join a global movement. According to data gathered by Fossil Free: Divestment, over 850 institutions around the world have divested $6.09 trillion from the fossil fuels industry. These include Colby College, the University of California system, New York City and the Rockefeller Foundation. In 1986, Middlebury divested from apartheid South Africa. Fossil fuels must come next.

Middlebury boasts carbon neutrality, has a world-renowned environmental studies program and signed the American Campuses Act on Climate pledge. Owning $60 million worth of fossil fuel investments lends Middlebury's moral license and reputation of sustainability to a rogue industry. It is ethical hypocrisy to pay for the education of Middlebury students by investing in companies whose business plans contradict the college's mission. Trustees have a responsibility to uphold the Middlebury's purported commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship. Divesting is a necessary step.

The purpose of our Board of Trustees is "to preserve the institution's educational excellence and its financial vitality." The board's current investments in no way preserve Middlebury's financial vitality. MSCI, a prominent financial analysis firm, created two nearly identical investment indices with one excluding fossil fuel corporations. If $1 billion had been invested in 2010, the fossil free index would now be worth $2.24 billion, compared to the $2.13 billion worth of the index including fossil fuels.

This is only the tip of the iceberg. The Paris Climate Accords, which Middlebury signed, require we limit Earth's warming to 2° Celsius. However, fossil fuel corporations' current evaluation is contingent upon them burning all reserves, releasing several times more carbon than permitted under the Paris agreement. Fossil fuel investments represent a carbon bubble that will burst as global governments take the necessary action to mitigate climate change.

The trustees' silence is a failure to practice the "agency necessary" for "ethical citizenship at home and far beyond our Vermont campus" as laid out in Envisioning Middlebury. Hesitancy in endorsing any campaign is understandable, but divestment has broad and consistent support on campus and internationally. Most importantly, divestment is a critical step towards justice. It is time for Middlebury to end its contribution to structures of systemic injustice that feed climate change and disproportionately harm marginalized populations.

Our Board of Trustees now must stand with students and end our college's support of an ethically corrupt industry. We have a moral imperative to divest, and it's time our board acts.

SGA Weekly: Lessons Learned

By JIN SOHN & ANNIE COWAN

Dear MiddKids,

To begin, thank you to all who helped out with Staff Appreciation Day! It was a huge hit and the staff greatly appreciated the dinner as well. This was the 2nd Annual Staff Appreciation Day, and we hope it will continue and improve in the many more years to come.

For this column, we will share some final updates from SGA along with some lessons learned this year.

SGA Updates:

1. SGA 2018–2019 Bylaws Amendments: There were some internal SGA bylaws amendments that were discussed and passed at the Apr. 29th Senate meeting. Here are a few of these changes: Publicity Committee was renamed Communications Committee, SGA committees for the sophomore and junior classes were formed and matched to the model of the SGA First-Year Committee, Commons Senator positions will be on a semester basis instead of the current yearly basis, a formal structure for the appeals process was formed, and more. Please check at go/sga under Archives to see an official version of the passed bylaws amendments.

2. Finance Committee Budget Allocations of $10,000 and More Presentations: The SGA discussed and ultimately approved of the budget allocations by the SGA Finance Committee at this past May 6th Senate meeting. Budget allocations of $10,000 and more included Club Sports (Crew, Equestrian, Mens Rugby, Sailing and Women's Ultimate Frisbee), Inter-Commons Council (ICC), Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB), Middlebury Intercultural Leaders Coalition (MILC), Middlebury Mountain Club (MMC), Service Cluster Board (SCB), Student Government Association (SGA), The Campus Newspaper, WRMC (Middlebury College Radio Station) and YouPower. Throughout these conversations there were discussions around student employment and hiring by organizations, needs for organizational restructuring and more. Be sure to check out the SGA minutes for a more comprehensive look at our discussions. These budget allocations will go into effect Fall 2018.

3. Spring Finals Week Library 24/7 Hours: Thank you to all those who submitted survey responses to Library 24/7 Hours for finals week. The survey results showed that 60.2 percent of student respondents used the library during 24/7 hours this past Fall finals week, and most hours of usage were from 12 p.m. – 3 a.m. followed by a resurge in numbers at 7 a.m. 51.5 percent of student respondents answered that the library should not be opened the full 24/7 hours for this upcoming Spring finals week. In the comments section, many student respondents encouraged the library to be open until 2 a.m. and then to re-open at 7 a.m. during finals week to meet students' needs and library constraints. After presenting the survey results to Michael Roy (Dean of the Library), he decided to keep the 24/7 hours for this Spring finals week and begin plans to keep the library open until 2 a.m. for Fall 2018 finals week.

4. Common Agenda Updates & Cabinet Final Reports: Be on the lookout for final common agenda updates and an SGA cabinet report that will be published for the student body in the coming weeks!

5. Board of Trustees: Middlebury College Trustee Members will be in town for their final meeting of this academic year from Thursday (05/10) – Saturday (05/12). The College Board of Overseers will be in all three dining halls during Friday lunch to directly engage and converse with students. The SGA is working to release the College Board of Overseers agenda to the student body, so please check your emails for this. If you have any concerns or comments, feel free to contact sga@middlebury.edu.

Lessons Learned:

It has been an honor to serve as the SGA President and Deputy Chief of Staff this past year. Along the way we've learned some important lessons that we'd like to share with the larger Middlebury community as you all look towards next year at Middlebury.

1. Students at Middlebury are passionate about various causes, ideas and beliefs. This is incredibly import-

Continued on Page A6

Abuses at 10 O'Clock Ross Are Classist and Immature

By WILL KELLEY

I get really annoyed every time 10 o'clock Ross gets cancelled. Not because I go to 10 o'clock Ross, but because every email with the subject line "10 o'clock Ross Suspended" reminds me that our campus is too immature to deal with any sort of responsibility, especially when it involves respecting dining hall staff.

Usually it's cancelled because people are leaving a mess or are bringing alcohol, but last week someone broke into a dairy-free cooler by brute force. It might seem like this is a criminal departure from the previous violations, but I think it fits right in. Whoever broke into that cooler felt entitled to whatever was inside of it. Anyone who leaves a mess of cereal and ice cream feels entitled to the time it takes for a dining staff member to clean up the congealed cereal bits and sticky ice cream residue in time for breakfast the next day.

Let me break this down. It's true that Middlebury pays MCDS staff to clean up after students. But when dining staff are setting up breakfast, they shouldn't have to clean anything. They clean the tables after dinner, so theoretically the tables should still be clean in the morning. The mess from 10 o'clock Ross interferes with this. Having to clean up after 10 o'clock Ross is an unnecessary burden on the dining staff, and our inability to clean up directly translates into extra work in their already full morning.

Our dining staff have to do more every morning for the same compensation. This amounts to material class exploitation. If you don't believe that, take Intro to Sociology with Professor McCallum. Any labor that a worker performs in excess of what they need to survive is called surplus labor. In a fair society, every worker is compensated for all of their surplus labor. Exploitation occurs when the worker isn't compensated for their surplus labor — instead, the benefits of that labor are appropriated by someone else.

Student-led cleanup was a part of the 10 o'clock Ross agreement from the very beginning. When we fail to clean up, we abdicate that responsibility and force the dining staff to do surplus work without being compensated. Anyone who doesn't clean up after themselves is saying that they are entitled to an MCDS staff member's surplus labor so that they can go to bed earlier, write an extra two sentences of essay or play 15 extra minutes of Fortnite.

It's also a matter of basic decency. More often than not, the mess that we leave after a single meal is way more than it should be. It's almost as if people are taking full advantage of the fact that they don't have to clean up after themselves. From the student perspective, the food just magically disappears; we aren't around to see the dining staff meticulously clean up every piece, making sure that our dining halls are a welcoming and clean place for us to eat every day. Perhaps if we saw them do this, we would act with the basic human decency we might use in our own houses, when our roommates and friends have to do the cleaning.

All of the dining staff here wake up way earlier than any of us students do. Some of them have to commute in from New York, waking up even earlier so they can get here in time to put breakfast on the table with the utmost efficiency. The dining staff also save us time and trouble by cleaning our dishes, something that I am grateful for every day. These wonderful people already do a whole lot to make our lives easier, and the least we can do is treat them with basic human decency by cleaning up after ourselves.

And what should we do about 10 o'clock Ross? The SGA is right to shut it down. We should do all we can to shut down exploitation at Middlebury. If we can take responsibility and clean up after ourselves, then by all means we should have 10 o'clock Ross. But if we can't do 10 o'clock Ross without exploiting our dining staff, then the SGA should ban 10 o'clock Ross and spend more time organizing staff appreciation dinners like the one they hosted in Atwater two weeks ago.

SETTING THINGS STRAIGHT

By DAVID RUBENSTEIN

This op-ed is in response to The Campus's story on Jonathan Rauch's recent lecture at Middlebury, entitled "Why Free Speech is the Only Safe Space for Minorities." The article focused on the Open Campus Initiative's (OCI) funding for the event.

First, I am surprised that The Campus chose to focus on the Institute for Humane Studies' (IHS) contribution rather than any other aspect of the event. OCI (for which I serve as treasurer) has been very transparent in advertising IHS' sponsorship — this was noted front and center on our posters publicizing the lecture. The Campus could have noted the solid attendance (65 people) at our event, or the free-flowing Q&A that followed. A headline referencing "Koch money" certainly has shock value, but the fact remains that OCI made this known to the community weeks before the lecture.

Similarly, the article's implication that OCI is a right-wing front group is rather misinformed. If anything, liberal viewpoints are overrepresented among OCI's leadership. For example, OCI's President, Sam Zieve-Cohen '19.5, and I both identify as political moderates who enthusiastically voted for Hillary Clinton. Sam spent his Febmester interning for the Clinton campaign. Our beliefs are radically different from those of the Koch brothers — if they were seeking operatives to infiltrate Middlebury, I doubt we would be high on their list.

I have rejected funding offers from other organizations, as the offers in question came with political conditions attached. In dealing with external organizations, OCI makes clear that students — and no one else — must have full control over our events. As stated in our constitution (Article IX), we will always remain a non-partisan and fully independent organization.

Speculation that OCI is linked to a similarly named organization at Harvard has no basis in reality. Clubs with similar names and purposes exist at many colleges and universities, such as UChicago's Students for Free Expression. Unlike groups such as AEI, the Middlebury OCI is not a chapter of any national organization. I believe our speaker choice — a nationally acclaimed gay rights activist and Brookings Institution scholar — says more about our club than events elsewhere.

As a club we seek to foster a non-partisan space for meaningful dialogue across differences, and promote respectful debate and viewpoint diversity on campus. Our members range from Bernie Sanders supporters to Christian conservatives. We have no ideological conditions for membership — we only seek a willingness to interact with alternate or opposing viewpoints. I am convinced that it is only by engaging with other points of view that we come to truly understand our own.

It is understandable that some members of our community wish to understand why OCI accepted funding from a libertarian organization. I will clarify our decision. In making plans for our club's programming, Sam and I agreed that Jonathan Rauch would be a particularly compelling speaker. However, OCI has only modest funds on hand, so further fundraising was necessary for the event to take place. Campus-based funding sources were limited, and we were (and still are) unwilling to take funds from sources with broader strings attached.

When informed of our financial constraints, Rauch mentioned to us that IHS had helped cover his speaking expenses in the past. In light of this, we solicited funding from the Institute, with the explicit understanding that our relationship was limited to this event. At no point did IHS attempt to influence the content of our speaker's remarks. Likewise, IHS never attempted to influence OCI's future programming. Had they attempted to do so, we would never have accepted their funding.

I must correct two other claims in The Campus's article. Contrary to Ms. Singh's claims, OCI is a fully approved student organization. College administrators have already informed the Student Organization Oversight Committee (SOOC) that there is no provision for an "approval with reservations" in the committee's bylaws and established processes.

Likewise, Singh's claims about our members' ideology — in addition to being beyond her committee's purview — fail to match up with the diverse viewpoints represented in OCI. Our treasurer for the upcoming year is a Christian conservative — a viewpoint radically different from Sam's and mine. It is unfortunate that Singh is spreading false information about our organization.

Following the event, Rauch noted how impressed he was by the audience and the substantive conversation that followed his remarks — a conversation that went well into the evening. In the future, I hope The Campus will assess guest speakers on the strength of their arguments rather than simply according to their sponsors. Doing so will only further the newspaper's contribution to building a truly robust public sphere on campus and beyond.

To Build a Subway System; or, Just Follow the Master Plan

By ETHAN BRADY

Readers, I write to you today with urgency. Middlebury is in the midst of a transit crisis. Middrides is nonfunctional. Public Safety is on the prowl to give out parking tickets. It takes a full 20 minutes to walk from the Bihall to the gym — and that's if you're speedwalking.

A subway system could solve these problems. Call it the M-etro. Imagine the convenience of being able to travel from Bihall to the gym in a matter of moments.

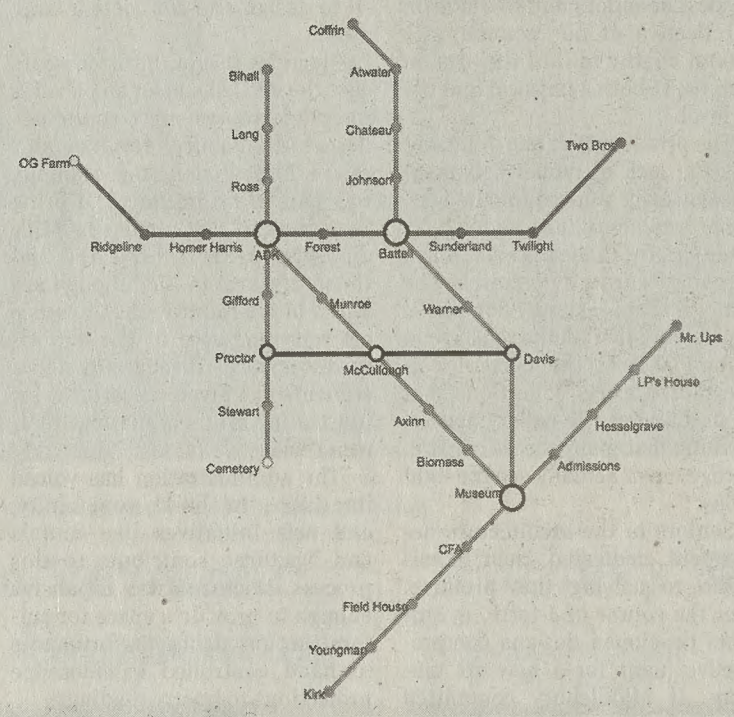
The basics of it work like this. There will be four main lines. The ADK line, stopping at Bihall, Ross, ADK circle, Gifford, Proctor and Stewart, with a limited service stop at the cemetery. This line would primarily be used by science students, as well as people who eat in Proctor.

Then you have the Atwater Express, shuttling guests from the Coffrin and the Atwaters to Battell, Warner, Davis, and eventually to the new museum which should be built. (For preliminary designs, see the architecture majors' thesis work from January.) This line will probably get the most traffic, especially the Davis stop.

The Ethan Allen line is a big one for athletes, as it connects the other lines to a straight shot up the CFA, gym, football stadium, and golf course. Down the other way it also makes stops at admissions and Laurie Patton's house before terminating at Mr. Ups.

One of the most useful lines will be the the College Street trolley. It runs the entire length of that road from Ridgeline to Twilight, making stops at Forest and Sunderland. Bar nighters will be pleased to see the trolley providing full service to Two Bros; crunchies will be excited to see a limited service stop at the organic farm.

The Murray line ties up loose ends by connecting the ADK and Ethan Allen together, adding stops at Munroe, McCullough, Axinn and the biomass plant. There's also a shuttle line between Proctor and Davis for convenience.



In total, it's about 2.5 miles of track, so at a going rate of $250 million per km, we should be around . . . $1 billion dollars. Perfect — our endowment is just over that amount, giving us a bit of change left over.

Obviously, the Vermont Underground is never going to happen. A boy can dream, can't he? But without any serious commitment to thinking about built space, our vast campus will still be hostile to pedestrians, to the spontaneous encounters that make for a vibrant campus life.

A good guiding document is Middlebury's master plan, drafted by a major architectural firm and meant to last for 50 years. It's a serious document, though you might not realize it from hearing the jokes about it in Old Chapel.

Broadly speaking, the plan proposes beautifying the campus by thinking about how buildings relate to each other. It also rails against sprawl, and suggests that most new buildings be placed in the core rather than the periphery. It's an urbanist's dream.

Of course, Middlebury's most recent construction projects disregarded this advice — the Ridgeline development and the new temporary building. These projects expanded the campus footprint rather than articulating vast and out-of-scale open spaces like Battell Beach.

Good design should be a part of everything this school does. It's up to all of us to hold the powers that be to account. To the architects and artists at Middlebury, say no to poor design. Say no when a building feels hostile or inaccessible. Say no to a logo that looks like Clip Art. Whenever possible, propose better designs and better spaces. And to the trustees, when it comes to major construction projects, say yes to the master plan.

And with that, I'm signing off. Thanks for reading. I hope to see the Ethan Allen subway line at a reunion in 50 years — or at least a few of the proposals in the master plan actually realized. Until then, let's hope it's onward and upward for the college on the hill.

Ethan Brady is the editor in chief.

SGA WEEKLY

Continued from A5

ant and valuable to the community. And we've also realized that many of us, including ourselves, fail to provide needed time and attention to the things that our peers may be passionate about as well. Caring more about the things that may matter to another person (possibly someone who is widely different from you) could help to create a more empathic and open-minded environment.

2. We all come from different backgrounds and communities. It's important to recognize your own background and privileges that you may carry. We all have moments where we act unintentionally and fail to recognize our own privileges in our actions with one another. Particularly staff members at Middlebury College are often negatively impacted by our failure to be more aware of our privileges. By being more intentional and aware of our privileges, our actions can better reflect who we actually are and what we value.

3. Truthfully, change is not easy nor fast. This is something that many of us at Middlebury are already aware of. We've also realized that oftentimes students want more short-term and immediate change while administrators and others who have been here for longer than four years look towards more long-term and institutional implementation. These differences in priorities, although sometimes they do overlap, continue to cause tension in our community. We don't have the answer for overcoming this tension, but being aware of this discrepancy could be the key in understanding how to work together. Persistence and accountability in action are other important factors to working together.

4. At the same time it's important to acknowledge that there isn't just tension between students and administrators, but also between students and students. We all work to positively contribute to the Middlebury community in different ways, and there are some students who do more than others. It's time to work to not just keep administration, faculty or staff more accountable to the Middlebury community but also your fellow peers. Accountability should apply to everyone — this is your community.

These are just a few of our closing thoughts from this year, and we are aware that you may disagree with these lessons we've learned. We also want to thank you for staying engaged and committed to the Middlebury community in the ways you have this past year.

As always, all past and current bills (including the ones mentioned above) are accessible at go/sga under Weekly Updates and/or Archives. The final SGA Senate meeting will be Sunday (05/13) from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Enjoy the final days of this semester and remember to take moments for self-care in the midst of finals!

Jin Sohn is SGA President.
Annie Cowan is SGA Deputy Chief of Staff.

A Stripper's Manifesto

By ISABELLA ALONZO

Respect. R-E-S-P-E-C-T. Written on the chalkboards of kindergarten classrooms, in gymnasiums and in doctor's offices. From a young age, we are told that the respect we give is the respect we get. As a young adult lady today, I have not found this to be true.

A few weeks ago, a small woman in Proctor Dining Hall, at Middlebury College, dropped her yogurt bowl all over the counter. A group of male students socializing and hopping around the salad bar, fixing sandwiches, hogging the panini presses, throwing bananas at each other, kept it moving.

No one offered help.

She cleaned it herself, even after I offered to assist, despite the many things she had juggling in her arms. This is such a small example, but it really made me stop and think. I ran through all the times that I have seen dining hall staff rush to pick up a boy's mess... and why? Because we probably assume that they can't, or won't try to clean it up anyway. Maybe it's because people assume that women are naturally more independent than men, maybe it's because we are the "domestic" gender that should know how to do that kind of s**t and enjoy doing it, maybe it's also that women by nature don't command respect or attention in the way that men do.

Women don't take up space in the same ways, we don't receive the same acknowledgements and we certainly do not expect to.

I asked a few friends, all of whom identify as female, when the last time they felt like the most respected person in the room was. These were their answers:

1. "I genuinely don't know... I mean, when I'm in the room alone? Haha. Maybe it's my youth, honestly. Maybe I haven't gotten to that place yet."

2. "At a volleyball practice when Coach called me out to model a move or something, I guess I felt like the most important person on the court. Then again, that was in an all female setting... I was also team captain..."

3. "Maybe when I graduated and had my party. Everyone was there in a supportive nature. People were getting to know each other better, getting drunk, not dressed too fancy, and it felt really awesome that I was that common theme."

4. "No good response relating to work... People have appreciated the work I have done — "Good find," or "good job." But I think women working, even women who are my ultimate superiors, I can see how their male counterparts are treated in comparison to them."

5. "My brother's funeral maybe. Also, possibly when I was a camp counselor. Definitely not class, or a job."

Interesting... Either we've sought it out, or we've put ourselves in situations where we might earn it, but it is not usually innate with the title or position we carry, unlike men.

I read an interview recently with female rapper Cardi B in Cosmopolitan Magazine. She spoke a little about her past life as an exotic dancer, and the rejection she received from both her family and society as a whole. She comments on why she is always bringing up her stripping past: "Because ya'll don't respect me because of it, and ya'll going to respect these strippers from now on." In that same interview, she touches on the infidelity of her relationship. She is expected to explain it, but decides instead to tell people to mind their own business. It is not unusual that women are in the spotlight explaining male behavior... I'm pretty sure Chris Brown did not have to cry on camera after he beat Rihanna, but she certainly did.

When we introduce the 'rents to a significant other, we expect a handshake with dad, but mom will get a hug. A hug is more intimate, which isn't an inherently negative thing, or less respectful per se, but it does already establish a power dynamic. Mom has to be a hug, and dad gets the business handshake. A man gets to choose when he wants to become the tender dad and accept that hug, but initially he still does get that handshake. Mom usually doesn't get to choose.

Women who raise kids in the home. We respect the dads who bring home the bacon, and make it possible for mommy to do the grocery shopping. How about a stay-at-home dad? They're atypical and god-sent.

The list can go on and on... We know all about this. Double standards all around, the patriarchy shaping our experiences as women, making life unfair, blah blah blah. So, what am I trying to say? To be aware of the respect you get versus the respect you deserve. There is a level of respect that women do not think they deserve. When we grow up thinking we are going to get less respect, at a certain point, we internalize it. As a result, without even realizing, people continually disrespect us in everyday situations because of who we are.

By respect I don't mean all eyes on you — I mean your person. Are you going to be looked at, spoken to, approached or listened to with the same respect as the cis-het male 10 feet away? I'm not quite sure how to define respect, or if I should have to in order to prove a point.

Ways disrespect appears every single day:

1. "Thanks, hun." You call your friends hun, hun? Boys, take notes: pet names are a fantastic way to show how much you could give less of a s**t about what her name might be.

2. Silence in the face of disrespect is a form of disrespect. "Would you hit that?" "Rate her ass/face/titties!" The excuse is always, "That's just how guys talk to each other." I get that there's a general culture of silence that makes it hard to openly speak on emotions or point out when another guy is doing something wrong, but I also really don't get it at all.

3. Listening. The way men listen to each other at a lunch table versus listen to their female counterparts is absolutely fascinating. I challenge you to count the number of times a woman gets interrupted.

Respect is behavior. It's also often cultural. It is a direct reflection of what our society values and thinks is important, and time and time again, it doesn't feel like equality is up there on that list. Teachers, nurses, receptionists — does the way they're treated accurately reflect societal value? Hell no.

But if those were notoriously male positions (which they are not), would that change the respect those people get? Men, by virtue of achieving a high-ranking position in a major field, gain respect — lawyers, doctors, etc. For women to receive the same level of respect, they need to go above and beyond. They need to not only be top of their field, but earn a Nobel Peace Prize, move mountains, be able to shotgun a beer in under eight seconds, run a four-minute mile, all while maintaining approval from the male gaze.

The way we talk to a doctor versus a babysitter — are they different? Of course, one has a medical degree and the other is probably a teenager trying to make some money and do APUSH homework while looking after a hyper six-year-old. However, in every stage, the man will probably earn more respect, or acknowledgement, than the woman — a male doctor versus a female doctor, and a male babysitter versus a female babysitter.

Men get to choose when they want to go into a female-dominant field, and when they do they are welcomed and applauded, and are almost treated in a special way. "It's amazing he'd want to spend so much time with the kids!" versus "Oh her name is Hannah, she seems sweet." A female babysitter is expected, but a male babysitter is "impressive."

For women to go into a traditionally male-dominant field (like medicine), they aren't met with that special treatment; they are met with skepticism. Overall, men get to choose how they navigate the world, and are blindly applauded and praised. I suppose I've become increasingly interested as a young woman who will soon be entering the workforce. How long will it take before I feel like the most respected I could (especially as a woman of color), or as respected as the white male who will likely take on the same job as me or be my boss? What the f**k do we have to do?

Two summers ago, I interned at a cable network. I was one of two consumer marketing interns alongside a very tall, elegant, African-American guy named Chad. He was more experienced than I was in the field, but we tackled our projects and got along just fine. He was rather quiet, and very mannerly. We had the exact same position, yet I was the one tasked with menial things like picking up food from the lobby for a meeting, or making copies. My internship was shorter than the other interns that summer with my study abroad semester starting before most. In handing off my work to the woman who oversaw me, I told her that she should not feel hesitant to give those same menial tasks to Chad. "He's a good guy, and I'm sure he's happy to do it." "You sure he's okay doing that?" she asked. The hell do you mean is he okay doing that? Maybe those tasks were beneath him. Maybe I was just seen as the more reliable one. No matter how you slice it, I had more (what many would call) b***h work.

I feel like I have the respect of my peers, people who I've decided are worth hanging out with, or those who I actively surround myself with. But inherent respect? I'm not so sure. It's what intrigues me most. How many times have I had to point out that I am in college to be spoken to a certain way? Too many. How often do we females feel like we have to be in charge to command respect? Too often. It is so hard to pinpoint or quantify respect, to point out what is "respect" and what isn't. However, it's beyond easy to tell where there's a gap between the inherent respect owed to men versus the respect owed to women.

Belcalis Almanzar — exotic dancer turned female rapper "Cardi B," topping all the charts — needed to trade in a Honda Civic for a Rolls Royce before being taken seriously, and those who looked down on her have been the butt of the joke all along. Maybe, just maybe, she is finally getting the respect she deserved all along. Then again, she was still a stripper. Go figure.

Be more aware of how you approach opposite genders in the same positions or settings. If he is taking phone calls and orders at a front desk just like her, or sliding up and down a pole just like her, then equal respect shall follow.

Respect these receptionists. Respect these strippers.

Author's Note: I would like to thank Hector Vila's course Writing On Contemporary Issues for giving me a platform for these kinds of discussions.

MEME Opens; 'Middlebury Environment for Making Everything,' That Is

By LEO MCELROY

In three weeks, my chapter at Middlebury College will be closed — I'm graduating. But before I go I have some unfinished business to tidy up. For three years, I've tried to create a makerspace here. After hundreds of pages of plans and proposals, dozens of meetings, one summer working in a makerspace, one graduation of a founding partner, tens of hours setting up equipment and the help of more people than I can reasonably list here, I'm finally ready to deliver. Friday evening at 5 p.m. Middlebury College's makerspace will open its doors for the very first time, and I welcome you all to come check it out.

You may ask, "What the heck is a makerspace?" I'll begin by defining "making." Making is the process of representing an idea independent of oneself. A makerspace is a facility that supports people in this endeavor by equipping them with tools for crafting, and connecting them with a community of people similarly spirited in their enthusiasm for creation. Middlebury's makerspace is equipped with a laser cutter, 3D printers, computer-controlled mills, a heat press, a vinyl cutter, a variety of hand tools and a variety of tools for working with electronics and microcontrollers. The ambition is to create a place where, with enough persistence and YouTube tutorials, you could make anything you could dream up real using the equipment in the space.

We're calling it the MEME, and I'm almost sure that requires some explanation. It means two things.

First of all, it is an acronym: Middlebury Environment (for) Making Everything. Given what I've said above, this is probably self-explanatory. The second meaning is that it's a meme. I don't mean meme as a funny caption on an image circulated around the internet. I mean "meme" in the original sense. The term meme was coined by Richard Dawkins in his 1976 book on evolution called "The Selfish Gene." The meme is a "unit of culture" analogous to the gene. It is an idea which is "hosted" in the minds of one or more individuals and which is reproduced by jumping from one person's mind to another.

When I worked in a makerspace in Michigan my charismatic boss gave fantastic tours, and he would always end by informing the tour participants that they had all just received a memetic infection. We chose the name in homage to that. But what idea are we trying to spread at Middlebury? If you want to manifest your creativity in the world, I want to eliminate all the extraneous barriers to doing so. That is what the makerspace is for: to encourage you to pursue your ideas by just getting started and figuring out the rest along the way. At college, we talk a lot about preparation for the "real world." Well I think this is the "real world" and we don't need to get ready, we just need to get started. If you have an idea make it happen, make it real. That's what the makerspace is for. That's our meme.

On Friday, May 11th, the makerspace will finally open its doors to the college community at large with a 24(ish) hour make-a-thon. The event will begin at 5 p.m. with an open house and tool showcase until 7 p.m. You can come learn about all the tools I mentioned above and get some inspiration for how you may want to use the space. On Saturday, there will be three classes on digital fabrication taught by community members and a special guest from Harvard. One class is on 3D printing, one on computer-controlled milling, and one on laser cutting. You can sign up for these at the open-house but you'll have to get there early before they fill up.

The rest of the make-a-thon various people will be in the space working on projects. The makerspace is located in The Bunker (the portion of FIC closest to BiHall). You can enter by taking the steps right next to the seminar room off the terrace or by the outside door on ground level. I'll be there. I'll be trying to cram in everything I've wanted to make while at Midd and didn't get to yet. Come say hello!

Reel Critic: "Avengers: Infinity War"

By DEVIN McGRATH-CONWELL
Senior Columnist

DIGITAL SPY

The Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) began with "Iron Man" (2008). It was a risky move by a company that had spent most of the prior decades selling off movie rights to characters in order to stay afloat. It was a comeback story, one strengthened by the casting of Robert Downey Jr. as the eponymous hero, a man in need of a comeback himself. In the end, the film was a massive hit and set into motion Marvel's vision for a massive interconnected universe of movies. Now, ten years and eighteen movies later, we have arrived at the beginning of the end for this initial chapter in the MCU. Ever since the post-credits scene of "The Avengers" (2012) revealed Thanos as the 'big bad' which the movies were building to, the question has been what would happen when he fully arrived on the screen. A second post-credits appearance at the end of "Avengers: Age of Ultron" (2015) and a few scenes in "Guardians of the Galaxy" (2014) later, we arrive at "Avengers: Infinity War" (2018), directed by brothers Joe and Anthony Russo and the culmination of the promise to bring the comic arc of the same name to life. It is what each movie in the entire MCU has been leading to.

"Avengers: Infinity War" begins in the aftermath of "Thor: Ragnarok" (2017). Thanos (Josh Brolin) and his followers have overtaken Thor (Chris Hemsworth) and the surviving Asgardians, laying waste to them and their ship. Here, we see the first glimpse of Thanos' true power, as he tosses the Hulk (Mark Ruffalo) around like a play thing. After a pair of courageous sacrifices, Thanos acquires the second of the six infinity stones that he is after, and we launch into the movie proper. So many interlaced storylines follow that it would be impossible to lay them out in any summarized fashion, but they all revolve around the same focal point: Thanos has the infinity gauntlet, a piece of equipment that will allow him to harness the power of the six infinity stones, which are scattered throughout the universe. If in the possession of all six, the stones and the gauntlet would give him the power to control every aspect of the universe, a power he would put to use with one goal: wipe out half of all life to achieve a "balance" in the cosmos. As a result, the Avengers, Guardians of the Galaxy and assorted heroes must fan out across the universe to try and stop him.

At any given point in the movie there are at least four distinct storylines unfolding. Whether they be Iron Man/Tony Stark, Dr. Strange (Benedict Cumberbatch), and Spider-Man/Peter Parker (Tom Holland) trapped on a spaceship heading for Titan, Thor meeting up with the Guardians of the Galaxy or Thanos in pursuit of a stone, there is never simply one story arc occuring. These narratives are all unified by Thanos but operate in different capacities of either supporting or opposing his quest. I knew going in that there would be much going on at once and maybe that helped my experience of watching it, but there were few moments where the movie seem to pull at the seams. For instance, the many narrative arcs became hard to follow when there was a tone shift between storylines, such as a comical quip from Tony cutting to a distraught Gamora (Zoe Saldana), but those were minimal. Some critics have maintained that there was too much going on to keep the story straight, but my experience was that the Russos stitched their world together quite well as a result of tactfully juxtaposed battles and a well-designed cascade of stories.

Making their jobs all the easier is a cast fully committed to the scope of the story. We have seen many of these characters evolve over a multitude of movies. For example, Tony has grown from a self-centered casanova into a paternal leader and Thor has gone from a lovable meathead to a remarkably complex character dealing with the grief of losing a homeworld and most of his family. The character-driven stories that preceded "Avengers: Infinity War" mean a remarkable amount of leg work has been done in developing these characters, much like the way a television show uses stand-alone episodes to build towards a season finale. Yet, for me, the most compelling performances came from characters with less backstory built into the MCU. At the head of this was Saldana, a performance inextricably tied to Brolin's turn as her demonic adopted father Thanos. Having appeared in only two MCU films prior to this one, Saldana has nevertheless been a standout of the Guardians of the Galaxy cast, portraying a woman who has been shattered by the abuse her adopted father rained down on her as a child and pitting her and her sister Nebula (Karen Gillan) against one another. It is also through this relationship that much of Thanos' complexity is contextualized. As a madman who wants to kill half of all life in the universe, there is evil enough to spare, but Brolin's scenes with Saldana bear a charge of perverted paternalism that is more chilling than any universal domination plan. He killed half of the population of Gamora's planet but truly believes he did the planet and her a favor. Their scenes carry a Learian heft which is the MCU at its best.

Furthermore, the duo of Scarlet Witch/Wanda Maximoff (Elizabeth Olsen) and Vision (Paul Bettany) became the emotional core of the movie for me. In the midst of a relationship that had only been hinted at in prior movies, theirs is the story of a romance besieged by the apocalyptic circumstances around them. At moments, they are challenged to choose between what would be best for the one they love and what is best for the world. It is the epitome of sacrifice, which becomes the de facto thematic unifier of the movie. In this story populated by nearly thirty heroes, there is not a single one spared from making an impossible choice at some point in the runtime. As a result, the tone of this movie is markedly darker than anything Marvel has put out before. The stakes seem real and though some of the many deaths in this movie will no doubt be reversed come the next Avengers in May 2019, there are a few that seem definitively final. We have lost characters in the MCU before, but none as central as those that meet their end in "Avengers: Infinity War," which is both heartbreaking as fan and inarguably compelling as a possibility that Marvel is pushing towards a reinvention.

"Avengers: Infinity War" delivers on the epic tone that has characterized its marketing and buildup. Super-fans of the comics and casual viewers of the movies alike have spent years wondering how this film would play out and, at least speaking for this viewer, it did not disappoint. It is not a perfect movie, but as one half of the capstone for an era of Marvel filmmaking it is deeply satisfying and more emotionally compelling than any of the entries in the MCU that have come before. Only time will tell if the risk that Marvel chose to take here will pan out into a greater shift in the way that they make movies, but it is promising to think that even ten years and billions of dollars in the company is not ready to rest on its fandom's laurels just yet.

The Librarian Is In

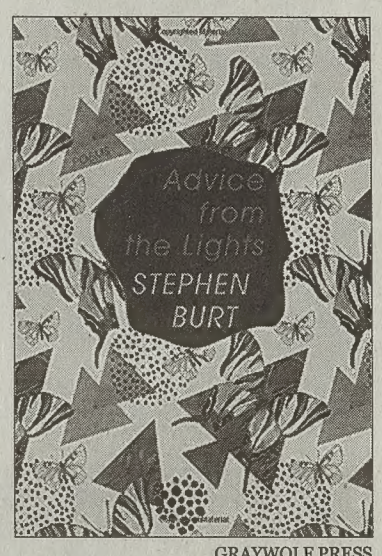
By KELLAM AYRES
Contributing Columnist

Library Reserves Coordinator Kellam Ayres is liaison to the Bread Loaf School of English and the Bread Loaf Writers' Conferences.

"Advice from the Lights" by Stephanie Burt, 2017

THE WHAT

Stephanie Burt, a poet, critic, and soon-to-be Breadloafer, is a Professor of English at Harvard, an author of several works of poetry and criticism, the co-poetry editor of The Nation, and will serve on the faculty of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference for the first time this summer. Her latest book of poetry, Advice from the Lights, was published in late 2017 and I've found it to be a compelling exploration of self, gender, childhood and the search for commonality in the world.



GRAYWOLF PRESS

THE WHY

I always appreciate a book that starts with a powerful opening line, and Burt (who was previously known as Stephen) does not disappoint, as she begins by stating: "Everybody wants a piece of me." This first poem, "Ice for the Ice Trade," is a persona poem (which, if your Latin is a little rusty, just means that it is in the voice of another person or object). The speaker continues by saying "I have been weighed and measured, / tested and standardized, / throughout my young life." Burt explores the examination of self throughout the book, and takes a thoughtful and often playful look at what surrounds us: the natural world (mole rats, water striders, cicadas), pop culture (there's a nod to Taylor Swift), adolescent mean girls and 1980s nostalgia. She is able to blend feelings of anguish with a certain spiritedness, as she does in the poem "A Nickel on Top of a Penny," when she writes about wanting "contradictory things, like security and excitement, / immortality, hang gliders, gumdrops, a home and all / the space in the world—..."

The book takes its structure not only through the frequent appearance of persona poems, but also by several powerful poetic sequences: poems centered on specific years in the 1980s, as in "My 1986," which begins: "I painted all ten of my toenails with Liquid Paper / then followed my father's injunction and scraped it all off." The Stephanie poems, a sequence of self-portraits as a (longed-to-be) girl, include "Esprit Stephanie":

The hard work of appearances disappears
into the apparent effortlessness, and the loose three-quarter sleeves
of trying to become what other
people, your friends, your real friends, are convinced that you already are,
like trying to follow the pale fleck of a small plane,
or a big plane far away.

Burt also skillfully uses rhyme throughout the book, and its use feels particularly moving and effective in another persona poem, "Secondhand Flashlight," in which a flashlight details its moments at a rave, and scaring off skunks, and later:

Having resigned myself to my fixed form,
I was surprised to escape the cardboard coffin
of the charity shop that sold me.
Though none of my parts can soften,
the humid summer air can still corrode me.
Pick me up; test me every so often. Hold me.

Burt's ability to address these questions of longing is so carefully considered and I especially enjoy her fresh and moving take on the classic existential questions: who am I and who am I meant to be? In the last Stephanie poem in the book, "Final Exam Stephanie," the speaker explores both the rules and conventions of school and schoolwork, but also what happens after the final exam is over, as she seeks a place where she can be herself:

What is this air, this space in which nobody rewards
me for conformity,
or punishes me, or keeps
track of my time, what I wear, how I see
myself, or tries to tell me what my name should be?

Song, Dance, Raptors and "Enron"

By APRIL QIAN
Senior Writer

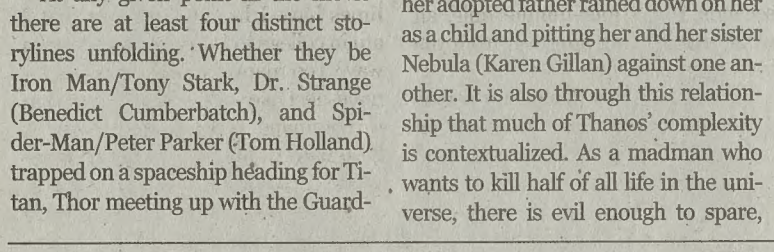
On December 2, 2001, Houston-based energy company Enron, whose shares once peaked at $90.75, declared bankruptcy. Ironically, the collapse of Enron Corporation, hailed by Fortune as "America's Most Innovative Company" for six consecutive years, was partially instigated by an article titled "Is Enron Overpriced?" in the same magazine. Eight years later, Enron's financial scandal inspired the British playwright Lucy Prebble to conceive a play of the same name, stylized emphatically in promotional material as "ENRON."

The spring faculty production of "Enron" was presented last weekend at Wright Memorial Theater, starring Sebastian LaPointe '18 as the brilliant though somewhat egotistical chief executive of Enron Jeffrey Skilling, Madeleine Russell '19 as Skilling's business rival Claudia Roe, a fictional figure who is a combination of different Enron executives and who serves as the sole central female figure in the play, Galen Fastie '20 as Enron's chief financial officer Andy Fastow and affiliated artist Peter Schmitz as Ken Lay, the founder and chairman of Enron Corporation.

Director Cheryl Faraone, a professor of theater and gender, sexuality and feminist studies, explained her decision to produce "Enron."

"The story of Enron's implosion is one which has fascinated and angered people for a long time," she said. "Multiple books and many articles have been written, documentaries filmed. Even in our community I encountered people whose lives were directly touched by the company."

Compared to journalistic accounts, Prebble's interpretation of the Enron incident for the stage offers a fresh and perhaps more sympathetic view towards the mostly male Enron executives who wanted, as the saying goes, to "change the world."



STAN BAROUH

With a wild array of song, dance, humor and drama, "Enron" critiques American business practices and failures.

Prebble's Skilling, as presented by LaPointe, is both obsessively ambitious and surprisingly idealistic. His vision of Enron as "not just an energy company, but a powerhouse for ideas" with a corporate culture of "less structure, less routine," where "people's minds [can] run" bears resemblance to the slogans of more than a few majorly successful contemporary corporations. Skilling's faith in the power of his idea of market to market energy trading to create "new industries, new economies" was convincing.

The heavy use of gendered language within the play, not least by Skilling, draws attention to Enron's macho-culture that perhaps lent its executives an overabundance of false confidence. Skilling's influence over his energy-traders is comparable to that of a god over his reverent followers, or that of a hound-master over his pack of hunting dogs. Skilling questions "why [we] should respect ineptitude" and advises his protégé Fastow to "never apologize." One of Skilling's traders declares that the game of the deal is the "closest thing there is to hunting, closest thing there is to sex — for a man, that is," echoing Skilling's capitalistic sentiment that "business is nature."

In a moment of reckless desperation to impress his boss, Fastow pitches to Skilling his idea of special purpose entities, an ingenious series of hedges or partnerships with shell companies where Enron could bury its losses to maintain its high stock value. "F— it." Fastow says, throwing his origami mathematical models aside. "Two guys in a room. You want my help?"

The special purpose entities, or Raptors, as they later came to be called, were represented on stage by dinosaur-like figures that physically consumed Enron's debt. Curiously, their relationship to Fastow resembles that between a master and his beloved pets, between a father and his children. "Clever girls," he coos upon the green-scaled financial vehicles' first appearance. The later scene in which a mournful Fastow is forced to "kill" his Raptors seemed almost tragic.

The rest of the play makes ample use of caricatures such as the Raptors to simultaneously elucidate and ridicule American business practices. Three blind mice who saunter on stage at frequent intervals refer quite apparently to the company's board, who have questionable knowledge of the company's true financial operations, the accounting company Arthur Andersen is played by a ventriloquist and his dummy and financial services firm Lehman Brothers is a weak-kneed pair of conjoined twins who change their rating of Enron from "moderate buy" to "strong buy" after a thinly veiled threat from Fastow.

"There is a huge difference in the forms," said Faraone, contrasting news reports on Enron with Prebble's play, observing that the play offers psychological insight into chief executives at Enron. "Though the playwright relies heavily on actual statements, the play constructs an interior life for Skilling that does not show up in much reporting. For theatrical purposes, complex, flawed, fascinating characters like Skilling are utterly compelling. Whether or not we would personally ever like or trust them is not really relevant in the story that's being told. This isn't the story of just one man, is it?"

In a rare moment of vulnerability in his final court hearing on stage, Skilling reveals the true purpose of his actions at Enron, as interpreted by Prebble. "I'm not a bad man," he insists. "I'm not an unusual man. I just wanted to change the world."

"Theatrically," Faraone said, "Enron" is "a terrific piece, epic in scope, with humor, song and dance, melodrama, sexiness and outrage."

DON'T MISS THIS

Jazz Showcase

Some of the College's top jazz instrumentalists and singers will present selections from their term's work. It's a celebration of the music that's been called America's National Treasure. A Music Department event. Free.

Thursday, 5/10, 8 p.m., Mahaney Center for the Arts, Lower Lobby

The Moonfish and The Knife

The Moonfish and The Knife is a dance-theatre piece inspired by the letters of the painter Salvador Dalí and the poet and playwright Federico García Lorca wrote to one another. This piece invites the audience to journey through the imagination of these two artists, and discover the nuances of their erotic and tragic love. $15/12/8/6

Friday & Saturday, 5/11-12, 8 p.m., Saturday, 5/12, 10 p.m., Mahaney Center for the Arts, Dance Theatre.

Community Chorus

This 90-voice chorus welcomes spring with a delightful mix of choral works from times past and present. With a history that dates back more than 150 years, the chorus brings singers together from on and off campus. Jeff Rehbach, conductor; Tim Guiles, accompanist. Free.

Sunday, 5/13, 3 p.m., Mahaney Center for the Arts, Robison Hall.

Observations on Friendship in "Fifth Planet"

By MONIQUE SANTOSO
Staff Writer

Last weekend, the Middlebury Theatre and Dance Department presented "Fifth Planet," the Senior 700 acting presentation of Eliza Renner '18 and Connor Wright '18. Katie Mayopoulos '18 directed the play as part of her Independent 500-level Theatre Project.

The piece was written by Pulitzer-Prize winning playwright David Auburn and was published in his book "Fifth Planet and Other Plays" in 2002. Since its premiere at Beowulf Alley Theatre in Tucson in 2008, the play has been staged by many production houses across the country.

"Fifth Planet" explores the story of two observatory workers, Veronica (Renner '18) and Mike (Wright '18). The show is staged on a hill and the scenes move from non-communicative dialogues between the two to an unlikely friendship blossoming from their love for the stars and the discoveries that the cosmos hold for them. Despite their initial setbacks, the two finally turn to each other to find comfort in their lonely lives.

"This play reminds us that while we may be literally starstruck by the cosmos above us, perhaps what is most deserving of our attention are the people around us," Mayopoulos said,

Indeed, the production not only showed the importance of exploring the unknown but also showed the audience the need to explore human relationships deeply, no matter how familiar we consider them to be.

The play begins with Mark, a janitor for the observatory, setting his telescope on the top of a hill. It is then followed by quick darkness, signaling the ending of the scene. These initial scenes of Mark, solitarily standing on the hill, peering over his astronomy books are then followed by quick encounters of a busy Veronica, on her way to work at the observatory. The two only begin to exchange words after the fifth scene, when Mike looks at her confused, to which she says,: "I'm on my way to work."

Over the span of 65 minutes, this initially awkward relationship progressed into a friendship with its fair share of fights and misunderstandings. An arrogant Veronica and a misunderstood Mike clash when he loses his job due to her lack of trust in his abilities and her overestimation of the abilities of her other colleague and friends.

As the show progresses, Veronica begins to trust Mike, acknowledging his efforts to track down an unknown object as exemplary, a 180-degree flip from her first comment about his inability to understand the stars as he lacks a graduate degree.

Auburn includes many aspects of a working experience in this play that are often pushed aside. Veronica grapples with her lack of recognition as a female scientist in the male-dominated field of astrophysics while Mike faces the difficulties of marriage for an unemployed man. These narratives are relatable for many individuals across working contexts.

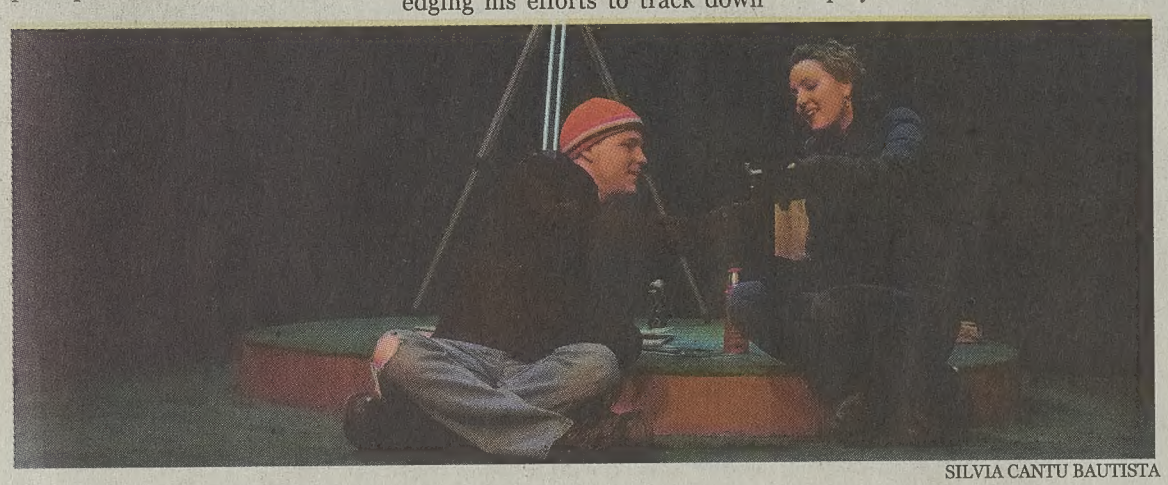
"Through the play, Auburn implores that individuals constantly revise their opinions as he contends that 'you have to track something to know what it is.'" Mayopoulos said.

Aside from the relatable storyline, the set of "Fifth Planet" was indeed a marvel. With lights attached to strings that glittered as stars and differently elevated circles that symbolize a hill, Grace Zhang '18 showcased a masterpiece for her 500-level Independent Project in lighting.

"Fifth Planet" demonstrates what unlikely friendships arise when we take the time to communicate with people outside of our comfort zones. This play reflects how admitting our mistakes and swallowing our pride helps mend broken lives as well how one friend can become a source of comfort and light through life's perils.

SILVIA CANTU BAUTISTA

Eliza Renner '18 and Connor Wright '18 play two observatory workers in "Fifth Planet."



SILVIA CANTU BAUTISTA

The play illustrates the journey of the two characters as they advance through their friendship.

The Soul of Seoul Comes to Middlebury

By EZRA NUGIEL
Contributing Writer

On the evening of Friday May 4, bright neon glow sticks illuminated the packed crowd in Wilson Hall. The audience's energy was palpable as they anxiously waited to celebrate Middlebury College's second annual Korean Culture Show. The show began at 8 p.m. and ran for about two hours (with 18 individual acts), featuring a diverse collection of Korean performance art including dancing, singing, rapping, poetry reading, instrumental music and more.

The only requirement for participation in the show was a love of Korean culture and a desire to share it with the Middlebury community. A diverse cast, comprising ethnically Korean and non-Korean students alike, graced the stage for each performance.

"Through the Korean Culture Show, I started to engage with community members that I hadn't been exposed to," said Max Lucas '21, who danced in the show. "[It's about] bringing together different people from different backgrounds... It's really nice because you get to learn more about traditional Korean culture but then you can also just to have fun and dance on stage. Our group had a ramen night where we had different Korean ramens, did facemasks, and watched a bunch of Korean videos to build the community and get everyone excited about the performance in general."

The Korean Culture Show is a significant event on campus because it is one of the only formal platforms for celebrating and sharing Korean culture. While organizations such as Korean American Student Association and Asian Students in Action exist, their events usually take place on a smaller scale and in informal settings. Students praised the Korean Culture Show for giving the Middlebury community such accessible exposure to this culture.

"It was really nice to see how a lot of people came out from the Middlebury community who may have not necessarily known what K-pop is or about Korean culture, but they were willing to come and see what people had produced," Lucas said.

This entirely student-led production showcased the talents of over 50 students and was coordinated by a logistics team made up of Abby Escobar '20, Karl Lin '20, and Lia Yeh '20. These students began organizing the program as early as this fall while team-wide rehearsals began at the start of spring semester. The individual performances were conceptualized by a group of team leaders who finalized the show's setlist and led rehearsals. Members of the Leaders Team included Mika Dab '20, Jeffrey Formen '19, Monica Galbraith '20, Abla Laallam '20, Karul Lin '20, Nathan Nguyen '19, Alan Ohikuare '20, Miko Dai '20, Jilian Ohikuare '20, Anton Gallegos '20 and Lia Yeh '20. Four lively emcees, Keun Young Ko '21, Sean Rhee '21, Jin-Mi Sohn '18 and Miles Tyner '18, kept the show moving with detailed introductions of the performances and their cultural significance and helped maintain a vibrant energy among the crowd and performers alike.

Upon entering Wilson Hall, audience members were given a yellow ribbon sticker in honor of the Korean Culture Show's theme: commemorating the heartbreaking sinking of the Sewol Ferry in South Korea and suicide awareness. Sean Rhee '21 delivered a speech at the end of the show dedicated to these issues.

"Even though four years have gone by [since the sinking of the Sewol Ferry], the tragic accident continues to pain the people of South Korea," Rhee said. "Tonight, we continue to honor those 153 students who lost their lives on April 16, 2014. The yellow ribbons [are] to remember the Sewol Ferry disaster and to keep pushing for justice for those students and passengers we lost that day."

"South Korea is known for its youthful culture and viral K-pop performances like the ones you have seen tonight," Rhee said. "However, underneath that vibrancy exists a growing concern of depression and suicide. South Korea, unfortunately, has one of the highest rates of suicide in the world, and is even referred to as the 'Republic of Suicide.' Tonight, we support those who suffer from society's immense pressures. Within this society that pushes against us, stigmatizes mental health and expects us to accept these adversities as a part of life, let us push back against these ideas."

For the show's final performance, the entire cast gathered onstage to lead the audience in an interactive dance. Audience members exited Wilson still practicing their dance moves and smiling from ear to ear. It is safe to say the second annual Korean Culture Show was a wild success. The audience ate up every bit of the show and erupted in applause at the end of each act. Congratulations to the entire team who put on this passionate and striking performance. Your dedication truly shined through.

"It's a baby — it's only two years old so hopefully it becomes a tradition," Rhee said. "I really hope that it continues because it was really exciting for me as a Korean to share that culture on this campus. As hard as it was and as stressful as it was, it was really rewarding at the end of the day."

SILVIA CANTU BAUTISTA

This year's Korean Culture Show brought students from all backgrounds to enjoy music, poetry and dance.

Nocturne

First evening student-run arts festival takes over campus, creative an immersive arts experience

JOHN SCHURER

SILVIA CANTU BAUTISTA

SILVIA CANTU BAUTISTA

JOHN SCHURER

Spanning many locations across campus, the first Nocturne Arts Festival featured musical, visual arts, and dance installations, among others.

SPORTS & FUNNIES

Top Team in the 'CAC, Top Seed in Regional

MIDDLEBURY BEATS BOWDOIN 13–10 IN CONFERENCE FINAL

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Middlebury celebrates a goal in its 13–10 win over Bowdoin in the Nescac championship game.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

The women's tennis team fell to Williams in the Nescac championship but will host an NCAA Regional, starting today.

B2

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS

The Panthers won their second Nescac title in three seasons on Sunday, May 6.

Look to the left and B8

SOFTBALL

SUSAN QUIGLEY

Softball's season ended in a tough 3–2 loss to Bowdoin last Saturday in the Nescac quarterfinals.

B3

PLAYER AND TEAM OF THE WEEK

B6

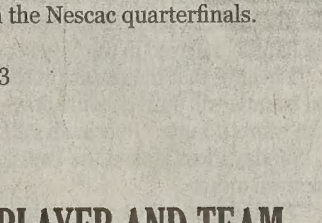
SCOREBOARD

B2

TEAM
Rigas' Reasoning

2. ANDREW RIGAS (181–123, .595)

IN
Case's Court



1. WILL CASE (199–126, .612)

B3

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Erin Nicholas '21 runs with a Polar Bear in Sunday's win.

BENJY RENTON

Emily Barnard chases down a Polar Bear.

BENJY RENTON

Middlebury's junior's pose with the championship plaque and banner.

BENJY RENTON

Addy Mitchell '21 surveys the field.

SCOREBOARD

As of Tuesday

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Standings

School	Conf.	Overall
Middlebury*	9-1	16-2
Amherst	9-1	15-2
Tufts	8-2	12-4
Bowdoin	6-4	13-5
Wesleyan	6-4	10-6
Trinity	6-4	11-6
Colby	4-6	9-7
Hamilton	3-7	5-11
Bates	2-8	7-8
Williams	2-8	6-9
Connecticut College	0-10	4-11

* Regular season champs
(Head-to-head tie-breaker over Amherst)

Schedule

SUNDAY, MAY 13
NESCAC Semifinals – noon

BASEBALL

Standings

West

School	Conf.	Overall
Amherst	8-4	21-12
Wesleyan	8-4	21-14
Middlebury	6-6	16-15
Williams	4-8	9-21
Hamilton	4-8	17-17

East

School	Conf.	Overall
Tufts	8-4	18-15
Bates	7-5	14-17
Bowdoin	7-5	16-17
Trinity	7-5	18-15
Colby	1-11	7-24

SOFTBALL

Standings

West

School	Conf.	Overall
Amherst	10-1	27-6
Williams	9-3	35-6
Middlebury	5-6	20-11
Wesleyan	2-8	14-16
Hamilton	2-10	11-22

East

School	Conf.	Overall
Tufts	9-2	29-8
Bowdoin	9-3	31-12
Trinity	6-5	17-14
Bates	5-7	20-14
Colby	0-12	2-28

ITA MEN'S TENNIS RANKINGS

Rank	Team
1	Middlebury
2	Bowdoin
3	Williams
4	Amherst
5	Wesleyan
6	Brandeis
7	Bates
8	Tufts
9	Skidmore
10	RPI

ITA WOMEN'S TENNIS RANKINGS

Rank	Team
1	Emory
2	Williams
3	CMS
4	Middlebury
5	Wesleyan
6	Tufts
7	Pomona-Pitzer
8	Amherst
9	Carnegie Mellon
10	Chicago

Women's Tennis Loses to Williams Again, But Will Host NCAA Regional

By ANDREW RIGAS

"To be perfectly honest, given the talent on both teams, I think the match could have gone either way," said Christina Puccinelli '19 after the women's tennis team's 5–4 loss to Williams back on April 7. "They happened to come out on top this time, but we came away from the match with absolute confidence that we have what it takes to win in the future."

On Sunday, May 6, the two teams met again, this time in the Nescac championship at the Bay Road Tennis Club in Amherst, Massachusetts. Once again top-seeded Williams (18–0) prevailed, this time by a score of 5–3, to win its third consecutive conference crown over second-seeded Middlebury (14–3).

But Puccinelli's words rang true once again on Sunday. Despite losing the match and being swept in doubles, the Panthers outscored Williams because all their singles wins came in straight sets, while their losses all went down to the wire, requiring the full three sets to finish.

Trailing the Ephs 3–0 after doubles, the Panthers mounted a comeback, winning the first two singles matches to pull within one. All at once, Middlebury had fought its way back into the contest. Christina Puccinelli '19 and Maddi Stow '18 bounced back from first-set losses to win their second sets, and Catherine Blazye '20 won her first set in dominant fashion, 6–1.

For the second time this season, the match between the conference's best could have gone either way, but Williams outlasted Middlebury to win its sixth championship in the past eight years, riding its doubles' dominance to victory even after the Panthers' surge in singles play.

Going into the playoffs, the Panthers knew they had some work to do in doubles after losing two out of three against Amherst in the last match of the regular season.

"We did not come out as strong as we would have liked in doubles, so this week we are going to focus a lot on our doubles play," said Katy Hughes '20 after the Amherst match. "We want to — we must — have a stronger start."

In their semifinal match against Wesleyan on Saturday, the Panthers came out stronger than they did against Amherst, winning two of three doubles matches — the only loss came to the reigning NCAA doubles champions, Eudice Chong and Victoria Yu, in the first slot.

In fact, just like in Middlebury's first match against Wesleyan, Chong and Yu were the only Cardinals to score victories on Saturday, as the Panthers controlled the rest of the ladder to win 5–3 and earn a spot in the conference championship match the next day.

Stow and Catherine Blazye '20 won 8–2 in second doubles, while Heather Boehm '20 and Ann Martin Skelly '21 remained undefeated as a pairing by defeating their opponents 8–6. Blazye, Boehm and Stow all won in straight sets to set up Middlebury's match with Williams, who shut out Tufts 5–0 in the other semifinal to move into the championship.

Middlebury could not replicate Saturday's doubles success against Williams on Sunday. The Ephs leapt out to what seemed to be a commanding 3–0 lead for the winners of 30 consecutive matches overall, a streak dating back more than a year to April 8, 2017, when Middlebury beat Williams 6–3.

But then the Panthers made a move of their own. Hughes made a statement by dominating Leah Bush 6–2, 6–0 in second singles. Then Boehm, after trailing 5–2 in the first set of her match with Chloe Henderson in the third slot, rattled off 11 straight games to win in straight sets as well. Both Hughes and Boehm pushed their doubles struggles out of their minds to bring Middlebury back within one match of Williams.

"It is really hard to lose all 3 doubles to a team as good as Williams," said head coach Rachel Kahan. "But after the doubles points, regardless of who we are playing and what happened in the doubles, our mindset is that the match resets. We look to go out and win all six singles matches."

Meanwhile, Puccinelli lost her first set 6–1 to Juli Raventos in first singles, as did Stow, 7–6, to Korina Neveux in the sixth slot. But both of them bounced back too, as Stow wasted no time winning her second set 6–1, and Puccinelli came back in her second set to win in a tiebreaker 7–6 (7–5).

Williams regained some hold of the match when Neveux beat Stow in the third set to put Williams one win away from the conference championship. But Blazye countered in fourth singles, winning 6–1, 6–1 over Mia Gancayco to keep Middlebury alive.

Raventos won Sunday's decisive match, outlasting Puccinelli in a three-set victory, 6–1, 6–7 (5–7), to secure Williams' third-straight Nescac crown. At that point, Skylar Schossberger '20 led Julia Cancio 3–0 in the first set of their match, but they stopped when Williams clinched the match.

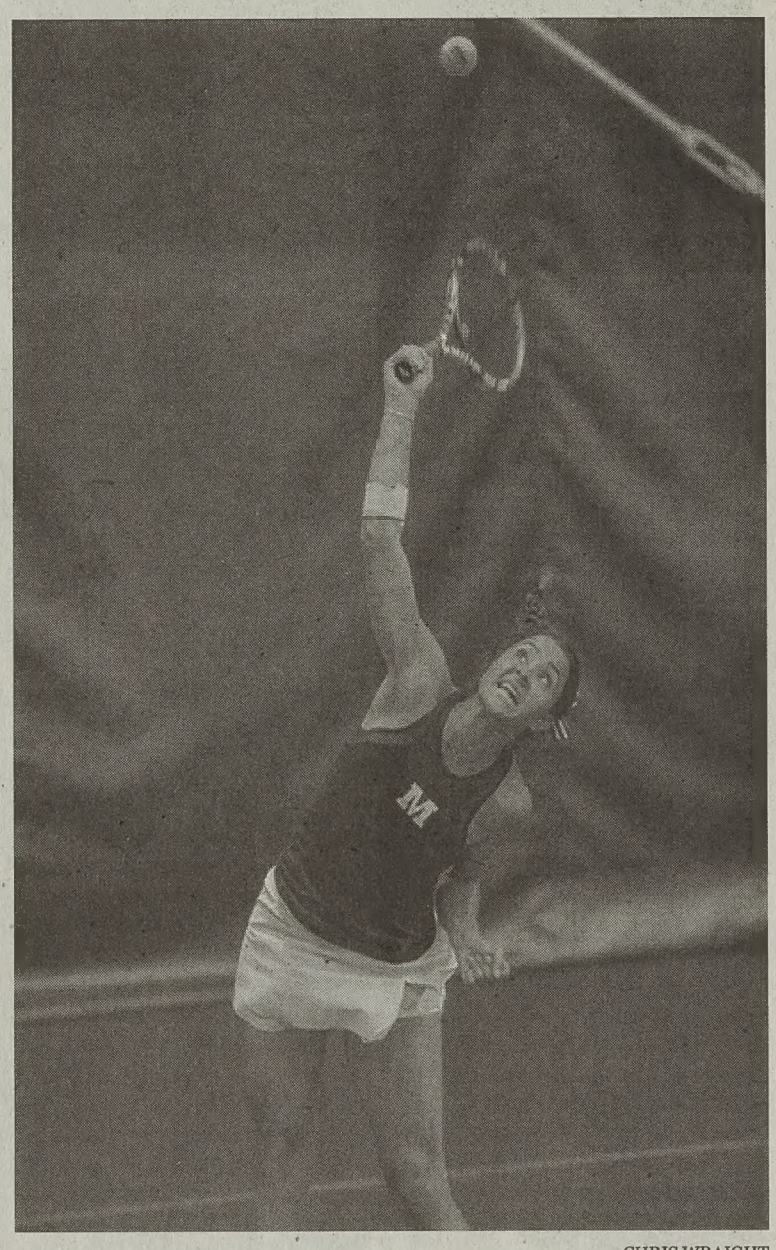
Since Williams last lost in that match to the Panthers over 13 months ago, the Ephs have won one national title and two conference championships, and will enter this month's NCAAs 18–0.

But Middlebury inched a little bit closer on Sunday. The Panthers dominated three singles matches, led in a fourth, and lost in three sets in the other two.

"The team fought extremely hard, and I felt the belief that we could win through the whole match," said Kahan. "Every match with Williams has been close and has come down to a couple of points."

More than anything else, Sunday's match demonstrated the fickle nature of sports.

"Once again, the results could have gone either way, and once again we drew the short end of the stick," Puccinelli said.



CHRIS WRAIGHT

Christina Puccinelli serves in Middlebury's third straight Nescac championship appearance.

She and the rest of the Panthers remain firmly convinced that they can beat Williams and any other of the top teams in the country. Simply viewing Sunday's match as a loss is a waste of time because of how well Middlebury played.

"My team competed with energy, composer and grit, and I could not be more proud," said Puccinelli. "We came out with energy and determination, and we did not waver in either throughout the full five-hour battle."

Not only did the Panthers play extremely good tennis, they did so in the face of adversity after falling into a daunting 3–0 hole.

Middlebury's full body of work this season is much more representative than one loss. And because of their hugely successful spring, the Panthers will host one of the NCAA Regional brackets, starting today and running to Saturday, May 12. The Panthers have a bye through the first round of the seven-team draw and will play their first match tomorrow. No. 18 Skidmore is the only other ranked team in the regional.

If the Panthers win on Friday and Saturday, they will advance to the quarterfinals which will be held in Claremont, California. The Panthers are one of five Nescac teams in the NCAA tournament, along with Williams, Wesleyan, Amherst and Tufts. And Middlebury and Williams are on opposite sides of the bracket, meaning a rematch between the two squads would not come until the national championship.

Middlebury has demonstrated throughout the season it is one of the nation's top teams, having defeated No. 5 Wesleyan (twice), No. 6 Tufts, No. 7 Pomona-Pitzer and No. 8 Amherst, while giving No. 2 Williams two of the biggest challenges the Ephs faced all spring. And it's become increasingly clear how little separates Middlebury from Williams, and the other two teams ranked ahead of them, No. 3 Claremont-Mudd-Scripps and No. 1 Emory. CMS beat Middlebury 7–2 on March 30, but that feels like the distant past, given how well the Panthers played in the Nescac.

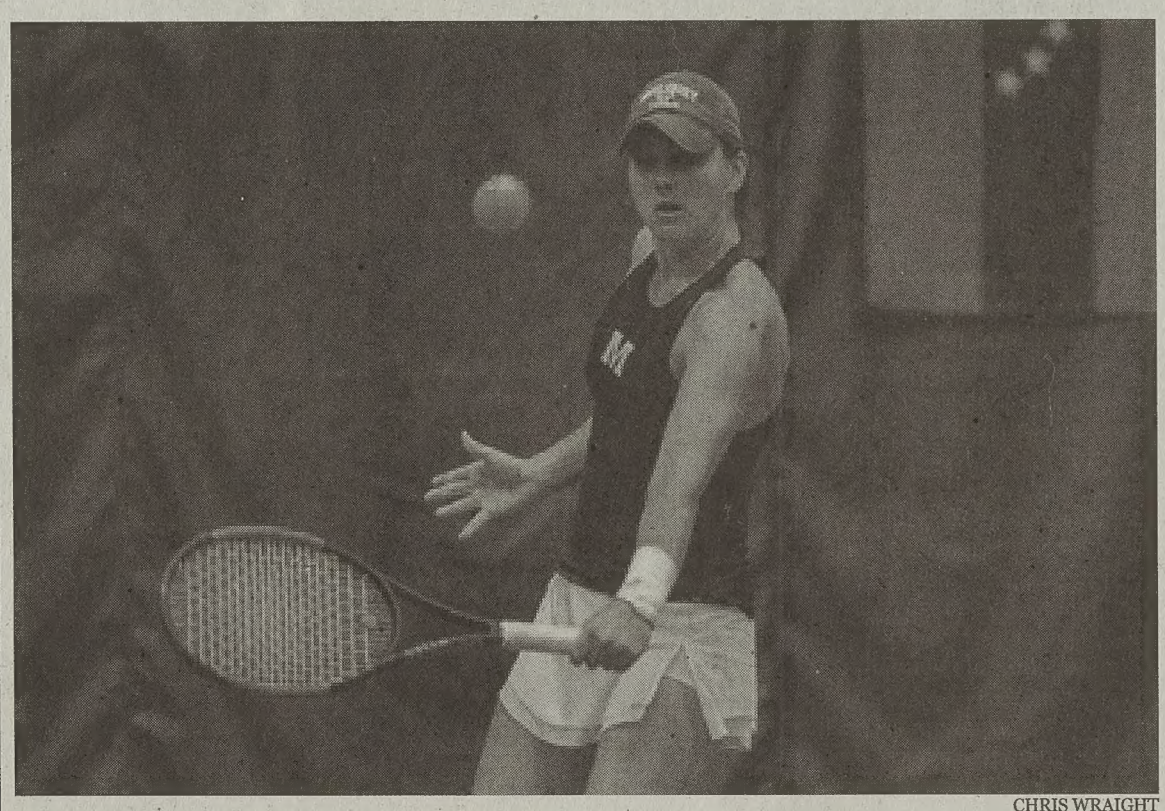
"I believe that the results in the final rounds will simply come down to who wants it more," Puccinelli said.

Sunday's loss stoked the Panthers' fire even more.

"Each opponent we face from here on out will be determined and resilient, since a loss means the end of a season," said Puccinelli. "We love the challenge and want the title more than we ever have."

In 2003, Middlebury qualified for its first NCAA tournament. Two seasons later, the Panthers reached the semifinals of the tournament, but then did not return to that point for another 11 seasons, when they were one of the final four teams in 2016. Last season, Middlebury reached the semifinals again, where Williams beat the Panthers. The Ephs have now beaten the Panthers in four consecutive matches, while CMS has defeated Middlebury six straight times and Emory has knocked them out of the tournament three times since 2013.

To put it lightly, the Panthers want to beat these teams ranked above them. And they have shown they can compete with them. Is now the time for the Panthers to finally conquer the perennially dominant DIII teams?



CHRIS WRAIGHT

Ann Martin Skelly '21 hits a backhand in the Nescac championship match.

Martinez Takes First at DIII New Englands

By JORDAN HOWELL

Exceptional performances against top-notch talent highlighted last week's DIII New Englands meet for the track and field teams.

"I thought overall we had some really solid performances," said Jonathan Perlman '19. "After a big meet like Nescacs, it can be difficult to compete the next weekend with the same level of intensity. Despite that, a lot of guys were able to build off the momentum of Nescacs and set PRs."

The women came in ninth with 27 points in a field of 33. MIT, winners in both the men's and women's meets, finished with 161 points in the women's meet.

There were several crucial pieces to the women's success this week. Kate McCluskey '18 came in second place in the 200-meter race with a time of 24.97, breaking her own school record, which she set just the week before.

The 1500 also turned out favorably for the Panthers, as Tasha Greene '21, Katie Glew '21, and Abigail Nadler '19 came in third, fourth, and fifth, respectively. Greene had a time of 4:34.58, Glew had a time of 4:35.49, and Nadler had a time of 4:35.52.

The men's team also competed in a 33-team field and finished fourth with 62.5 points. MIT racked up 167.5 points in their first-place finish.

Following his winning performance as Nescacs, Nick Hendrix '20 did well in the 200-meter race with a time of 21.72, netting him second place. There were several contributors in the 400-meter race. Jimmy Martinez '19 came in first with a time of 48.29. James Mulliken '18 came in fourth with a time of 49.79. Also, William Robertson '21 got sixth place with a time of 50.27.

John Natalone '19 did well in the pole vault event with a vault of 4.55 meters, good for a fourth-place finish.

With a time of 42.08, the 4x100 relay team, composed of Hendrix, Martinez, Jackson Bock '19 and Mike Pallozzi '18, broke the school record.

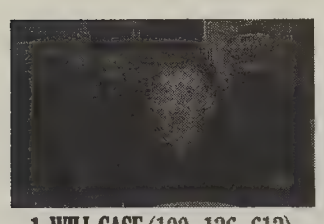
Perlman saw success in the 1500-meter race as he captured second place, coming in at 3:54.41.

"I was really happy with my race in the 1500," said Perlman. "I felt like it was my best race of the season. I put myself in good position the first half of the race and was able to make a move for the lead with 600 meters to go."

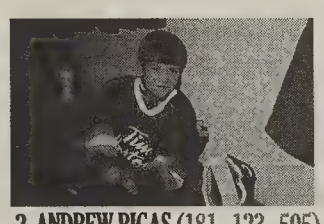
Next up for the Panthers is the Open New England Championship at Dartmouth tomorrow and Saturday, May 11 and May 12.

"Open New Englands is a very competitive meet, so we'll look to take advantage of the talented field and try to continue to set PRs." Perlman said. "Our goal for the rest of the season will be to continue to improve our marks and get as many guys qualified for NCAAs as possible."

EDITORS' PICKS



1. WILL CASE (199–126, .612)



2. ANDREW RIGAS (181–123, .595)

3. ETHAN BRADY (79–65, .547)

4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA (32–32, .500)

Will women's lacrosse win the NCAA Championship?

YES They need to come out of the gate stronger, but if they do that this team has what it takes.	NO I have a bad feeling one of those teams from the great state of Pennslyvania is going to take the cake this season.	YES Wax on wax off.	YES If you win this conference, you can beat anyone.

Will women's tennis win the NCAA Championship?

YES It's about time they beat Williams. If not this year, they have their best days ahead of them.	YES I've covered them all season, know they have a real shot at it, and think they can do it.	YES Williams is going down.	YES They've been on fire this year.

Will men's tennis win the NCAA Championship?

YES But Mr. Rigas, when's the last time the same school has won 3 titles in the same season?	YES When's the last time the same school has won the women's and men's DIII tennis championships? Actually, sooner than I expected, five seasons ago when Williams did it. But only Williams, Emory and Trinity (Tex.) have done it ... until this season.	NO Someone's gotta lose.	YES The loss against Bowdoin should be enough motivation.

Who will win the NBA Eastern Conference?

CAVS LeBron and co. will have a tougher matchup with the Cs. But, they get through in 6 games.	CAVS Call me convinced. LeBron has made a believer of me, but so has Brad Stevens. Maybe don't call me convinced after all. Just give me Mr. James.	CELTICS No, the Cavs will win.	CAVS LeBron is unstoppable.

Who will win the NBA Western Conference?

WARRIORS I'm looking forward to Cavs-Warriors IV. It's going to be epic.	ROCKETS This isn't necessarily who I think will win, this is who I want to win ... if you know what I mean.	WARRIORS Rockets.	WARRIORS Rockets will need more than Harden and Paul.

Who will win the NBA Finals?

CAVS LEBRON!!!!	CAVS Can we call LeBron the GOAT after this. I don't know, I'd have to think about it.	CAVS Big W over the Dubs.	WARRIORS I hate to say it, but Warriors.

Who wins the US Open (golf)?

YUTA IKEDA Why not? Pretty good value pick in Vegas.	TIGER This might the toughest question I've ever had in the Eds' Picks.	PHIL I don't know anyone else in the field.	TIGER He's back.

Who wins the Stanley Cup?

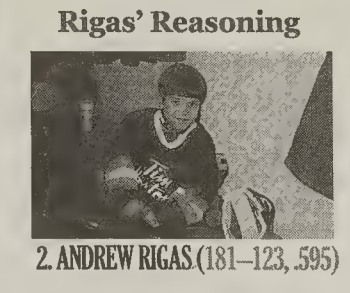
WHO'S STILL IN? The team that scores more goals will win the Cup. Unless they're outscored on aggregate in the series...then I guess they won't.	CAPS I'm all about a good story, and this year's Caps are a good story, snapping their 20-year East Finals drought. When's the last time they won a Stanley Cup you ask, the anwer is never.	CAPS I DON'T WANT NO LOWER CASE.	CAPS Ovechkin's filthy.

More wins in 2018, Bears or Bills?

BEARS Mitch and a revamped D are going to win between seven-to-nine games. I've thought about this in depth.	BILLS You may have ended up higher in the standings Will, but I root for the better football team.	BILLS They'll be better than every team but the Jets.	BILLS Even though the Bears are the better team.

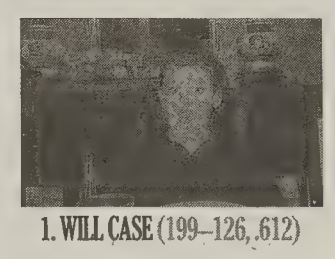
GREAT 8 EIGHT

TEAM
Rigas' Reasoning



2. ANDREW RIGAS (181–123, .595)

IN
Case's Court



1. WILL CASE (199–126, .612)

1 Women's Lacrosse
You have to credit the Panthers for their grit and ability to stay in games even when they fall behind early. This team is poised to make a deep run for a second national championship in three years later this month.

2 Women's Tennis
Well, this was Mr. Rigas' decision. Will may have put the men's team here, but since this is taking place in Case's Court he has to be nice to his guests. On another note, you can circle a potential rematch with Williams in the national championships on your calendars. But the team will have to take care of No. 1 Emory in the semis first.

3 Men's Tennis
Men's tennis avenged their loss to Williams last weekend in the conference semis, but then got avenged by Bowdoin the next day in the conference finals. This sounds about as confusing as the tie-breaker to decide last weekend's seeding. But we still have them here for a reason... they've got a good shot to avenge Bowdoin's avengeance and be in the mix for the national title later this month.

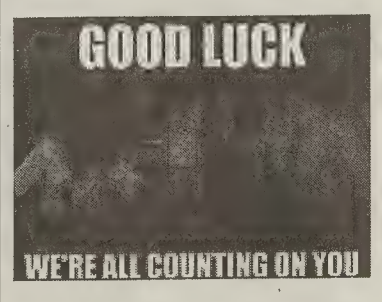
4 Track and Field
Hard not to put the track team up higher. We know you've noticed we've made a lot of errors with track in the articles and coverage of late...but that's on purpose. It's for good luck. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

5 Baseball
This team is a step away from being a powerhouse in the conference. Rob, Seb, Colby and Turt all did great work with this squad, and it was a pleasure getting to cover some sports on the newspaper with them.

6 Softball
They might be a small team, but they've got big hearts. Plus, they had a 20 win season and could've easily made it to the semis. They were the better team for much of last Saturday's game, before Bowdoin came back in the sixth and seventh innings.

7 The Conference
Between tennis and lacrosse (4 sports) 18 teams are headed to NCAAs.

8 National championship aspirations
Good luck to the tennis teams and women's lax.



Softball Season Ends on Another Walk-Off

By THE SPORTS EDITORS

The Middlebury softball season ended last Saturday, May 5, when the Panthers gave up a late lead to Bowdoin in the Nescac quarterfinals in Amherst, Massachusetts. The Panthers were ahead 2–0 and five outs away from advancing to the semifinal, in which they would have faced Amherst, before Bowdoin strung together a few hits and tied the game at two. Bowdoin eventually secured the game in the seventh inning, when they scored on a walk-off single to win 3–2.

Before the Nescac playoffs, Middlebury played a doubleheader at home against Lyndon St. on Wednesday, May 2, in what would be the Panther seniors' last games at home. Allison Quigley '18 also pitched her last game as a Panther on Wednesday, and she went out with a flourish. In the second game of the doubleheader, Quigley no-hit the Hornets in an 8–0 Middlebury win, the eight no-hitter in program history.

Middlebury obliterated Lyndon St. in the first game too, 23–0, powered by Melanie Mandell's six RBIs.

In the top of the third inning of Saturday's game, Ali Della Volpe '18 led off with a single. The very next batter, Olivia Bravo '20, doubled in Della Volpe to put Middlebury ahead 1–0 and advanced to third on the throw home. Then Emily Moore '21 hit a sacrifice fly to left field, and the Panthers led 2–0 after two and a half innings.

Morris also took the hill on Saturday. She held the Polar Bears in check over the first five innings of Saturday's quarterfinal matchup, allowing only four baserunners in that time frame.

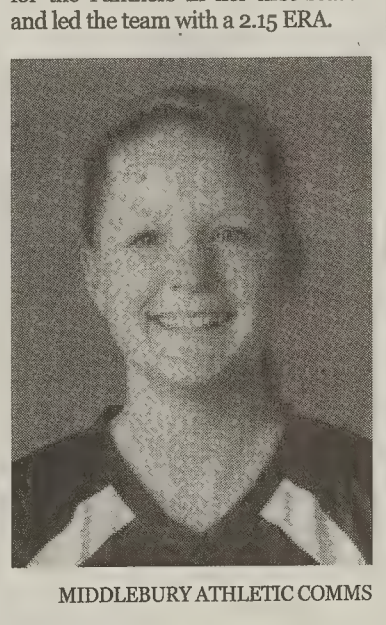
In the top of the sixth inning, Middlebury threatened once more, loading the bases with only one out. But Bowdoin struck out the next two hitters to get out of the jam.

And the Polar Bears' momentum carried into the bottom half of the inning, when they finally broke through, stringing together two hits, a walk, and a sacrifice fly to tie the game at two heading into the final frame.

Middlebury could not respond in its turn at bat in the seventh. Bowdoin's first hitter singled, but Moore got the next two batters out as the baserunner advanced to second. She walked the next batter, and then Bowdoin's Lauren O'Shea ended Middlebury's season. She hit a walk-off single, and Bowdoin won 3–2.

Middlebury finished the season 20–11 in Quigley, Della Volpe, Taylor Gardner '18 and Kati Daczkowksi '18's last season in the blue-and-white. As a group, they went 78–47–1 in their four-year careers while making two Nescac appearances.

Without those four, Middlebury will return nine players from this season's roster in 2019, including Mandell, who had the team's best batting average and slugging percentage, and Moore, who tossed the most innings for the Panthers in her first season and led the team with a 2.15 ERA.



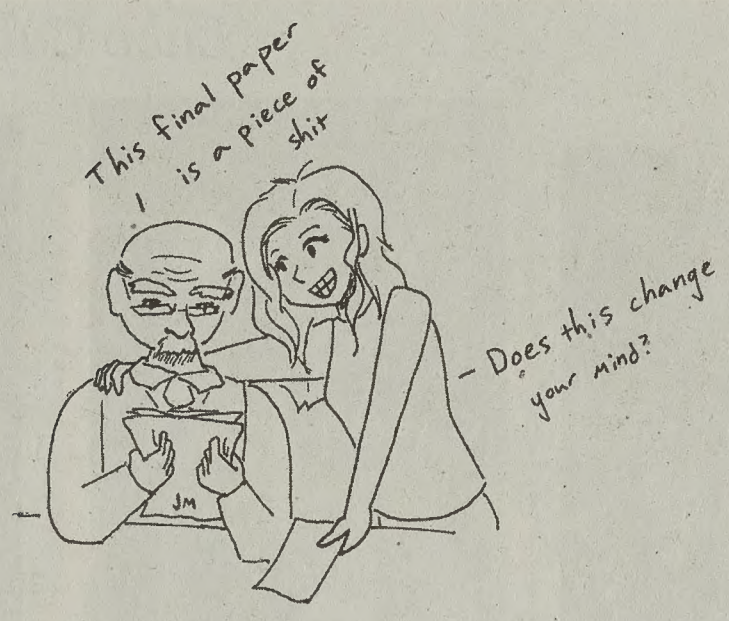
MIDDLEBURY ATHLETIC COMMS

Alllison Quigley '18.

MILLIE VON PLATEN

KAITLYND COLLINS

ALEXIS CLAY


This final paper is a piece of shit
Does this change your mind?
Please give me an A,
I didn't even want to write the paper so I wonder it's a piece of shit
1 1

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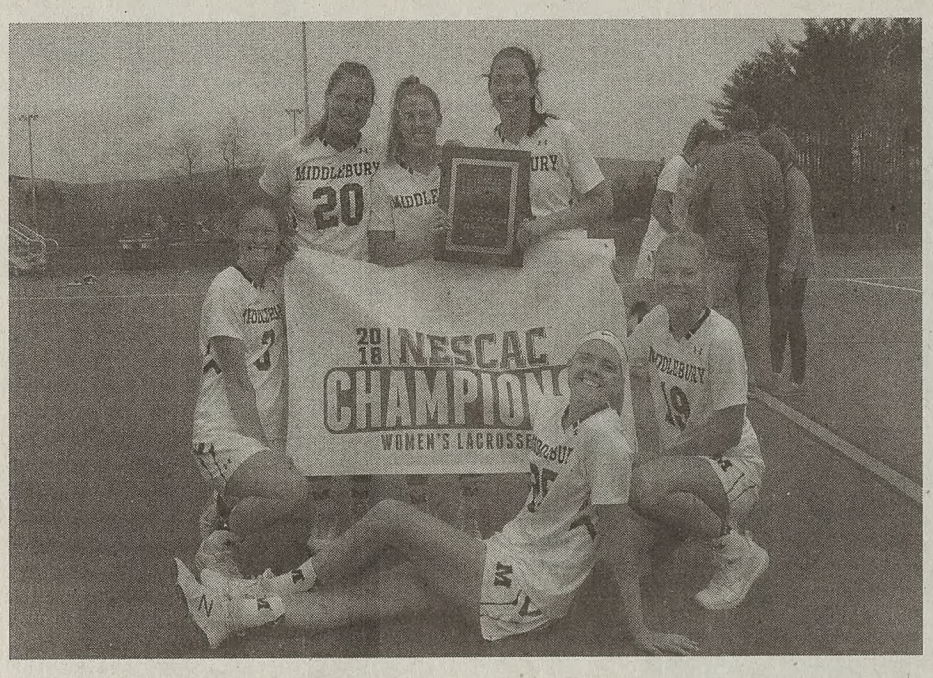
Panther Team of the Week:

Women's Lacrosse Conference Champs



BENJY RENTON

The Panthers won their ninth conference title and second in three years last Sunday, May 6, when they defeated Bowdoin 13–10 at Kohn Field after beating Trinity 16–13 the day before. Middlebury emerged from a loaded field that included six teams selected for the NCAA tournament. And neither of their wins came easily, either.

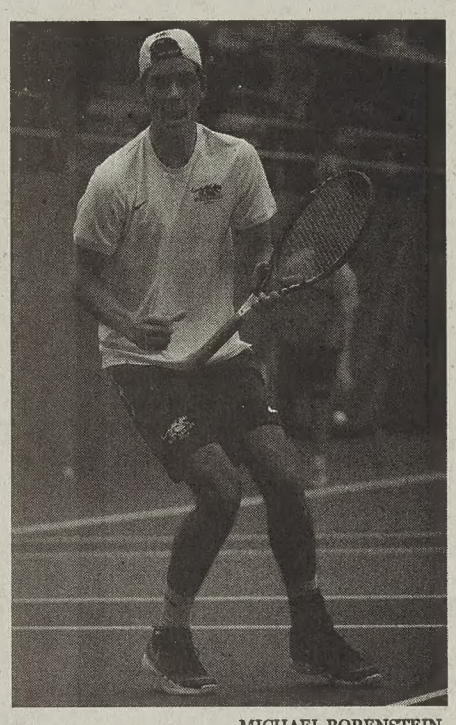
Against Trinity on Saturday, the Panthers trailed the Bantams 12–10 with 16 minutes left before they scored six goals in the next 11 minutes to get the win. And then on Sunday, Bowdoin tied the game at nine with just under 11 minutes to play, before Middlebury scored four times in the last 10 minutes to win.

Middlebury earned a bye through the first round of the NCAA tournament and will host the winner of Castleton–Babson on Sunday, May 13, as they aim to win a game in NCAAs for the eighth straight season.

Panther Players of the Week:

Emma McDonagh '19
Lubo Cuba '19

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

In our last issue of the school year, it is impossible to choose between a list of Panthers who showed out at Nescacs. McDonagh powered the women's lacrosse offense with four goals against Trinity in the semifinal game and three against Bowdoin in the final. Against Trinity, with the Panthers ahead by a merely a goal with time winding off the clock, McDonagh scored twice in one minute to secure a 16–13 victory. Then in the championship against Bowdoin, ahead by just one again, McDonagh gave the Panthers another much-needed insurance goal, bringing her team-leading total to 36.

Cuba went a perfect 5–0 in singles and doubles at Nescacs (in his sixth match he led Bates' Ben Rosen 6–2, 3–1, but Middlebury won the team match before Cuba and Rosen could finish), cementing points for Middlebury at the top of the singles and doubles ladders. In Middlebury's loss to Bowdoin in the championship, Cuba got his team's only singles win, a straight-set victory over Grant Urken. And in the Panthers' semifinal victory over Williams, Cuba avenged two losses from earlier in the season by beating Brian Grodecki 6–1, 7–5 and pairing with Kyle Schlanger '18 to outlast Grodecki and Ananth Raghavan 9–8 (7–3).

May Madness: Men's Tennis to Host NCAA Regional

DESPITE LOSING A NAIL-BITER NESCAC CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL TO NO. 3 BOWDOIN ON SUNDAY, THE TOP-RANKED PANTHERS WILL HOST FIVE OTHER TEAMS THIS WEEKEND IN THE FIRST THREE ROUNDS OF THE NCAA DIVISION III MEN'S TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

By JACK KAGAN

The men's tennis team went into the Nescac playoffs as the hottest team in the country. Newly minted as the top-ranked team in the nation, the Panthers had not lost a match since April 7. Even though they entered as the third seed in the conference tournament because of a tiebreaker amongst them, Bowdoin and Williams, the Panthers entered as a favorite to bring home the conference crown.

As the No. 3 seed, Middlebury faced off with No. 22 Bates on Friday, May 4 in the quarterfinals in Amherst, Massachusetts. The Bobcats have had an up-and-down year and were never quite able to hit their stride to move into the top 15 in the country. Hovering around No. 20 for much of the year, they suffered several 5–4 losses to higher-ranked teams and finally had their season cut short by the Panthers in a crushing shutout last Friday.

Matches in the Nescac tournament are played only until one team clinches the match, so once a team reaches five points, the match ends. Middlebury left no doubt to their skill as they raced out to five points with ease on Friday. The Panthers swept the doubles with their usual staff of upperclassmen to take a 3–0 lead into singles.

William de Quant '18 and Timo van der Geest '18 shined at No. 3 and No. 6 singles, respectively, each dropping only one total game to their opponents. This ended the match quickly and efficiently as the Panthers walked away with a 5–0 victory. All other Panthers players were leading in their matches, including Lubomir Cuba '19, who was just a couple of games from winning at No. 1 singles.

The next day was a more formidable test for the Panthers in a rematch with Williams, who has been one of the toughest teams in DIII this year and handed Middlebury a loss on April 7. Going into Saturday, the Ephs had only lost two DIII matches all year, at the hands of powerhouses University of Chicago and Bowdoin. Middlebury has faced Williams seven times in the previous four seasons and won every single match before its loss to the Ephs earlier last month.

Saturday's match was reminiscent of years past. Middlebury's winning started in doubles, when the Panthers gained a 2–1 edge. Cuba and Kyle Schlanger '18 won their ninth straight match together in a tight 9–8 (7–3) win in the first slot. Noah Farrell '19 and de Quant won their 10th match of the spring 8–5 at No. 2, while van der Geest and Peter Martin '19 lost just their eighth match of the spring compared to 14 wins.

Leading 2–1 as singles began, the Panthers needed only three matches to complete the day, holding Williams to one win on Saturday. Cuba overcame Williams' Brian Grodecki in two sets, and Middlebury's seniors followed suit, as de Quant and Schlanger dominated their opponents in similar straight sets. Farrell, van der Geest, and Nate Eazor '21 were all relieved of their duties as the Panthers clinched the match.

After the Panthers got revenge on Saturday, Bowdoin had its own chance at retribution after Middlebury gave the Polar Bears their only loss of the season on April 14. Cuba and Schlanger continued their impressive winning streak by way of an 8–6 victory at No. 1 doubles that mirrored their win from three weeks ago. Van der Geest and Martin confidently picked up their 15th win of the spring, while Farrell and de Quant struggled as Bowdoin's Kyle Wolfe and Jerry Jiang reversed their prior loss to the duo, besting the two Panthers 8–4.

Middlebury went into singles play with a 2–1 lead.

"There were many positives to take away from the match, including another solid doubles performance as a team winning two of three," Middlebury's coaches, Bob Hansen and Andrew Thomson, said. "We feel that if we are able to continue staying connected and playing hard every doubles match that we will often find ourselves with an advantage heading into singles play."

Cuba picked up his 12th win of the spring in a straight-set win over Grant Urken, who pushed him to a third set in their last matchup. This, however, was the only other match Middlebury won. The four other matches that finished went Bowdoin's way.

"It was certainly a disappointing finish," said the coaches. "We were thrilled with the effort and passion that our guys poured into each of their matches. We knew Bowdoin was going to come after us because we had gotten the better of them in the regular season matchup, and credit to them for playing some great tennis."

Farrell's opponent, Bowdoin's Luke Tercek, avenged an earlier loss, besting Farrell 6–2 in a third set. The same went for Bowdoin's No. 3, Kyle Wolfe, whom de Quant edged out last time in a tie break. This time around, Wolfe got revenge, handing de Quant his third loss of the spring in the process.

Bowdoin's Gil Roddy provided their lone victory in their April matchup against the Panthers in a straight-sets shutdown of Eazor, and this time proved similar, though Eazor fought to make the match much tighter, losing in three sets. This marks only Eazor's fifth loss of the spring, compared to 12 wins.

Van der Geest, at No. 6 singles, has fought his way back into the singles lineup, replacing freshman Andre Xiao, who ended his season on a rough note with a four-match losing streak. Van der Geest, however, could not convert in the third set against Bowdoin's Justin Patel, who Xiao bested in straight sets in April. Schlanger's match got cut short in the third set as Bowdoin took the fifth and decisive point to avenge its earlier loss at the hands of the Panthers and win its second straight Nescac championship.

The season does not end there for the Panthers, though. They received an at-large bid into the NCAA DIII men's tennis championship Monday. As members of perhaps the toughest conference in the country, Nescac foes No. 4 Williams and No. 8 Amherst also earned at-large bids, to bring the conference total to four along with the Panthers and the Polar Bears. The selection committee clearly looked past the Panthers' playoff woes and showed respect to their national ranking, selecting Middlebury to host a region of the tournament this weekend, when six other teams will descend onto the Proctor Tennis Courts.

Four teams, Wilkes University, Colby-Sawyer College, MIT, and Cabrini University, will battle for the chance to play either Middlebury or No. 24 Johns Hopkins University in the second round. All four of the first-round teams made runs to win their respective conferences, granting them an automatic bid into the NCAA tournament.

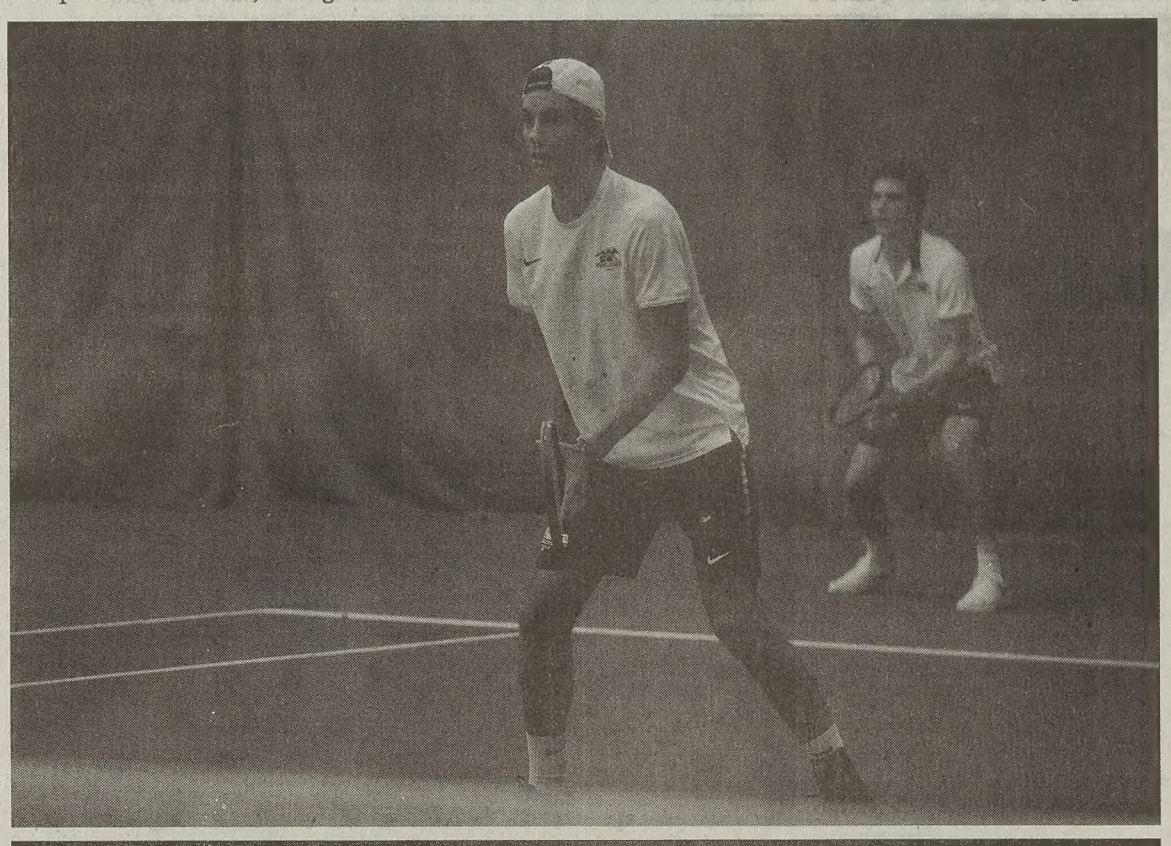
"We are looking forward to a very tough and challenging series of matches after seeing the release of the NCAA bracket," said the coaches. "Most importantly, our job this week is to stay focused on what matters most, enjoying every step of the process and competing with everything we have each day whether it's a practice or a match day."

It's possible that the second round will see Middlebury play a Colby-Sawyer squad that they demolished about a month ago. This would more than likely set up a match with Johns Hopkins, who plays a relatively weak schedule and whose most notable wins have come over top-20 opposition Swarthmore and Mary Washington in their Centennial Conference tournament run.

Being the favorites to move out of their region, the Panthers will be hoping to extend their season to next weekend, when, if given the opportunity, they would fly back to Claremont, California, for a possible rematch with Williams or No. 2 Emory.

"As always, we will try to prepare ourselves as best we can in every facet of the game to ensure we give ourselves the best possible likelihood of being successful," said the coaches.

They are certainly favored to make it at least that far, and they have homecourt advantage and seeding on their side as they try to make it to the quarterfinals in their quest for a national championship.

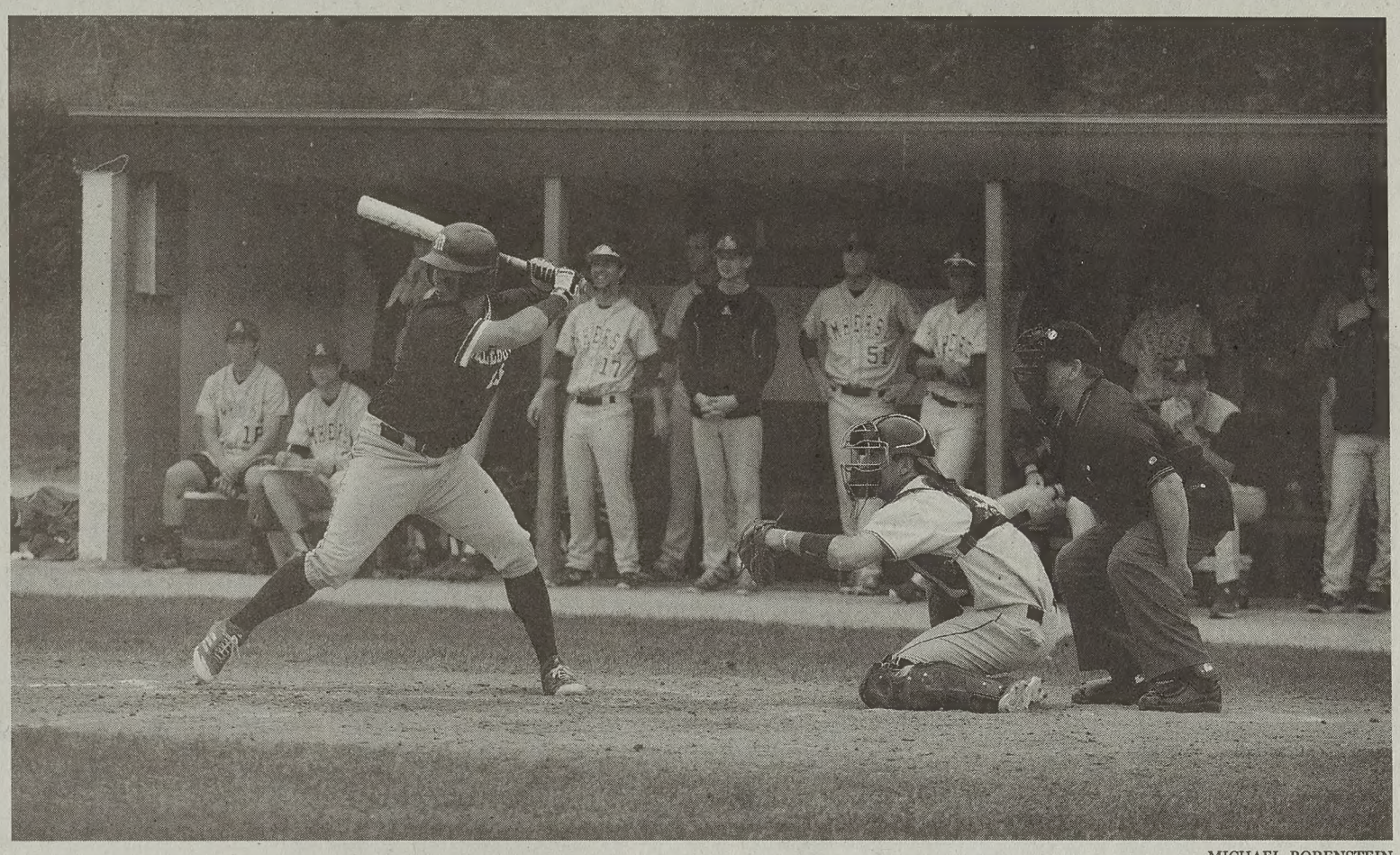


MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Lubo Cuba '19 and Kyle Schlanger '18, top, went 3–0 in doubles at Nescacs, while Will de Quant '18 and Noah Farrell '19, bottom, went 2–1.

Drive for Nescac Championship Cut Short

By JENNY LANGERMAN



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Jake Dianno '21 went five for nine at the plate in Middlebury's three-game series with Amherst last weekend.

On Friday, May 4, Hamilton beat Amherst, handing the Mammoths their third loss in the Nescac and setting up the most important series of the Nescac West season. For Middlebury to make the Nescac baseball playoffs, they needed to win two out of three games on Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6. The Panthers came up just short, winning the first game but losing the last two, ending a comeback attempt that featured a 10-game winning streak to bring Middlebury within striking distance of first place.

But first the Panthers had to make up games against Union and Plattsburgh, which had to be rescheduled from earlier in the season due to inclement weather. In doing so, the Panthers extended their winning streak to eight and then nine games.

Against Union the Panthers cruised to an easy 6–3 victory. Colin Waters '19 earned the win on the mound, as he managed to strike out six opponents while allowing only three hits over the course of seven innings of work.

Although neither team scored in the first four innings, Sebastian Sanchez '18 put the Panthers on the board with a run in the fifth, and five more followed it up in the seventh inning — topped off with a grand slam homer by Alan Guild '20.

The Panthers' busy week continued with another make-up game on the road against Plattsburgh, which also ended in Middlebury's favor and added one more onto their winning streak.

Justin Han '20, Hayden Smith '20 and Ryan Hanrahan '21 all had doubles, while Sam Graf '19 put up both a double and a triple.

Young Panther pitchers fared well and got more innings on the mound. Will Oppenheim '21 and Jack Miller '21 combined for nine strikeouts. Miller closed out the game and struck out all four hitters he faced — a confidence-booster heading into the winner-take-all showdown over the weekend with Amherst.

"When some of our key pitchers got injured, I felt the need to step up and fill that role in the bullpen," Miller said.

"Pitching against Plattsburgh felt great," Oppenheim said. "It proved that I could overcome a huge setback and get out of tough innings without the walks that plagued me earlier in the season. I had great control of my pitches and got a lot of swings and misses on my curveball. My confidence was completely brought back after pitching against Plattsburgh."

Middlebury extended its winning streak even further on Saturday with a shutout victory in the first of their three-game set against the Mammoths, adding to the fanfare of a series already chock-full of storylines. That win was Middlebury's 10th in a row, tying the program record for consecutive wins.

The first game of the Amherst series remained scoreless until the bottom of the third, when Brooks Carroll '20 had a two-RBI single to get the Panthers on the board. A subsequent hit from Han drove home Henry Strmecki '21 to increase the Panthers' lead to two.

Middlebury picked the scoring back up in the next inning, driving in three runs for the second time and bringing the score to 6–0. A sac fly from Jake Dianno '21 in the sixth inning pushed Han across the plate for the last run of the game.

Captain Colby Morris '19 pitched a complete game for the Panthers, bringing his total career innings pitched to 183. For his efforts, he won Nescac Pitcher of the Week. With the regular season coming to a close, Morris finishes the season with the pitching triple crown for Nescac pitchers (including non-conference games). His overall ERA was 1.71, with 52 strikeouts and five victories. After his sensational junior season, Morris has big plans this offseason before his final round in the blue-and-white.

"I always have [wanted to play professionally], and now think I have a much more realistic shot at it after this season," Morris said.

Luckily for the Panthers, working towards professional baseball won't detract from Morris' star contributions to the team.

"Fortunately, working towards this personal goal also will ultimately help the team," Morris said. "I'm going to play this summer in the Northwoods League, one of the top summer ball leagues in the nation, and am going to be in Green Bay for that. After my contract is up with my team, I'm going to a training center in Seattle to work on velocity and then going home after before the fall to train and get stronger in preparation for the coming year. I'm hoping Coach can help me out a little bit with the end goal of playing after next year, but the better I do for Midd, the better shot I have, so it's a win-win."

With their win in the opener, the Panthers were only one win away from a playoff berth. The day ended with split results, however, as the Mammoths came back from their loss to pull off a 6–3 win over the Panthers in the second half of the twin bill.

Though Middlebury scored first in the second inning, Amherst answered with three runs in the third, putting them in the lead. The Mammoths went up by two more in the seventh inning and then by another in the top of the ninth. The Panthers tried to rally in the bottom of the ninth inning with a pair of runs fueled by a hit from Phil Bernstein '19, but could not match their opponents.

And so the last game of the series, on Sunday, May 6, was for all the marbles.

Middlebury scored first when Carroll stole third and then scored when the ball got past the catcher and to the backstop. But Amherst quickly responded with three runs in the second, all with two outs, and then added two more in the third. The Panthers countered with another run from Carroll off a hit from Graf in their half of the inning to make it a 5–2 game after three.

Middlebury made another push in the seventh. Strmecki led off with a double down the left-field line, which Han followed up immediately with a single to score Strmecki. Han stole second and then induced a pickoff attempt that flew into centerfield, so he advanced to third. Then the Amherst pitcher hit Smith and threw a wild pitch, scoring Han and bringing the Panthers within one. On the wild pitch, Smith advanced to third, but injured his shoulder on the play and had to come out of the game. Carroll walked, then Graf flew out to shallow centerfield. Brendan Donahue '18, Smith's pinch-runner, tagged up but was tagged out at home, so Amherst's one-run lead stayed intact heading into the eighth inning.

But let's be clear. The game was decided in the bottom of the eighth, when the Panthers trailed by a run, 6–5, and had the bases loaded after Hennings reached on a double, Dianno singled and Sanchez moved them over to put runners on second and third. Strmecki lined out to third before Han was intentionally walked. Raj Palekar '18 then had the biggest hit of the season for the Panthers, when he hit a single to drive in Hennings, but Dianno could not score from second, bringing up Carroll with the bases loaded and two outs. However, the ever-reliable Carroll could not capitalize this time, grounding out to the pitcher and being thrown out at first by a step.

Amherst added two insurance runs in the top of the ninth, and then brought in their closer, who struck out the side.

This loss was especially devastating for the Panthers, whose goal of winning a conference title was dashed a year after a resurgent season saw Middlebury make it all the way to the championship series before falling to Tufts. This season was supposed to be their redemption.

"Our reaction was just as you would expect — a crushing loss. Not only was it a physical defeat, but just is tough to swallow knowing we are the best team in the league," said Morris.

Miller echoed Morris' sentiment. It was Nescac champions or bust.

"We're heartbroken by the outcome," Miller said.

In spite of the raw talent Middlebury held this season, the team encountered many uncontrollable obstacles.

"We definitely had a tough-luck season, losing three guys to season-ending injuries, having others banged up all season, and needing to mature really quickly after the tough beginning of the season," said Morris.

And, according to scouting reports from the director of baseball operations and statistics, Jack Langerman '19, the team was not blind to how these challenges could impact the Amherst matchup. "It was going to be a close series and would come down to a few plays," reported Langerman.

The team plans to pick up right where they left off next season, however, taking advantage of the young talent on this year's roster. "We have a bright future together as a team, and I am ecstatic to start it back up," says Morris.

This optimism is exemplified across the team. "I think that we have all the pieces to win the Nescac next year. We'll be working hard in the offseason and getting some key players back from injury," explained a hopeful Miller.

Oppenheim agreed. "The future is bright for Middlebury baseball."

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Jake Dianno '21 went five for nine at the plate in Middlebury's three-game series with Amherst last weekend.

Women's Lacrosse Gets More Hardware

Continued from Page B8

Once again, Keith and Kate Furber '19 split time between the poles, with Keith making three integral saves in the first half and Furber making one in the final stanza to bring the Panthers to victory.

It was all smiles on Kohn Field when the last whistle blew to finalize the score of 16–13. They were on to the final and were ready for a fight.

"Overall, our team felt really confident about facing Bowdoin again in the championship," Zecca said. "Though we played them earlier in the year, it was in the very beginning of the season. We knew they had been able to develop and better their play since we last saw them, so we knew that this game couldn't be taken lightly."

On Sunday, the Panthers had nothing left to lose and planned on leaving everything on the field. They took the field with confidence, knowing they had defeated Bowdoin by 10 goals earlier in the season. From time to time, this confidence did waver, as the women remained neck and neck throughout the game.

The first half kept fans at the edge of their seats, as both teams had a response for each goal scored. Bowdoin tallied the first goal as Allison Williams snuck a shot in after the first five minutes. Hannah Hirchfield's goal was then sandwiched in between two Middlebury goals, one from McDonagh and one from Grace Getman '21. Bowdoin increased their lead by two in the next five minutes. With under ten minutes to go, Kirsten Murphy '21 showed up once again to toss a goal in the hosts' direction. Carroll contributed her share, following the freshman, just before the Polar Bears were able to knock one more back. Then, McDonagh knotted the score 5-5 to finish out the period.

Once again, the pressure fell on the Polar Bears with the sound of the second-half whistle. Middlebury was now infamous for its second-half runs. But the visitors were the first to earn a goal. Three minutes later, we heard from McNicholas, who kept her team in the game. This momentum was followed by Perticone and Zecca, making the score 8–5. The Polar Bears were willing to leave it all on the field as they fought back to a tie game. With a little more than five minutes to go, the Panthers found their lungs to preserve their one-goal lead. McDonagh and Carroll were able to slap back two more shots to secure the trophy for Middlebury.

The Panthers' defense once again played a major role in their victory. The seniors led the stats, knowing this would be their final conference tournament. Evie Keating '18 grabbed three ground balls and forced two turnovers, while Perticone helped her out with seven draw controls and another two turnovers. Susana Baker '19 contributed her share with three turnovers and three ground balls.

Keith and Furber showed up where they needed to. In the first period, Keith prevented three balls from netting the cage. In her second-half appearance, Furber made a tremendous effort with eight stops.

The fourth-ranked Panthers will host their regional this weekend. They will play the winner of Babson and Castleton on Sunday, May 13, and are preparing by focusing on the fine points of their game, according to Zecca.

"In both the [conference] semifinal and championship, we have had to come back from three- to four-goal deficits," said Zecca. "Although we have come out on top in those close games, it would be undoubtedly better for us to come out strong and prove that we are playing to win for a full 60 minutes.

"We are confident that we have what it takes to make it all the way to the Final Four," Zecca added. "We just need to play the way we know we can."

Champions Again

By HEATHER BOEHM

The women's lacrosse team earned another piece of hardware last weekend when they became the Nescac champions for the ninth time. Despite cruising past Trinity and Bowdoin in the regular season without breaking a sweat, the two rivals came out with nothing to lose and gave the Panthers a run for their money. But the Panthers fared well under pressure and toppled their rivals. Middlebury skated past Trinity 16–13 on Saturday, May 5, in the semifinals, followed by a championship win over Bowdoin on Sunday, May 6.

Last year in the conference tournament, the Panthers did not fare as well, falling to Colby in the second round. During this year's regular season, Middlebury fans watched as the Mules once again took the women down in a regular-season matchup, 14–12. The women were prepared to avenge that loss in a game with higher stakes, but they didn't have to worry about the pesky Mules because they were knocked out by Amherst in the quarterfinal to end a down season for Colby.

Although the Panthers had beaten Trinity handily 14–8 in the regular season, anything can happen in a conference tournament. The heightened pressure of qualifying for NCAA's invigorates an underdog and creates a lack of security. On top of that, they were the top seed.

"There definitely is a lot of pressure being the No. 1 seed in the tournament as well as hosting," Zecca said. "After losing in the semis last year and watching two other teams compete for the championship on our own field, we knew there was nothing stopping us from getting there this year. No. 6 Trinity upset No. 3 Tufts in the quarterfinals, so we knew that they [were capable of pulling off an upset]."

The Panthers were reminded of this lesson this weekend when they had a tight matchup with the Bantams, once again coming from behind in the second half to win 16–13.

The Panthers had some trouble getting off to a strong start throughout the season but seemed to overcome this weakness in the conference playoffs. The hosts punched first, swatting three goals past the Bantam goalie within two minutes of play when Hollis Perticone '18 scored her 29th goal of the season. She was quickly followed by Erin Nicholas '21, as well as Emma McDonagh '19, who would go on to score three more goals.

The hosts needed to be more than a second-half team because they couldn't afford to put so much pressure on themselves in the final stanza given the high postseason stakes. The Bantams were able to sneak two more goals by Julia Keith '20 to narrow the margin until Casey O'Neill '19 found the back of the cage. With a score of 4–2, Trinity continued to climb back, adding one more tally to their total at the 21-minute mark.

With about 20 minutes left to go in the period, the visitors would go on to outscore the hosts 5–3, claiming the 8–7 advantage as the teams headed into halftime.

Middlebury was not concerned with this one-goal deficit, as they had dug themselves out of much deeper holes earlier in the season. They were a second-half team and would prove it today, with their home crowd behind them.

The Panthers did not win the race to the scoreboard this time. The Bantams found openings in the Middlebury defense and capitalized on their quick breaks. After the visitors continued to increase their total to a 10–7 lead, Emily Barnard '20 found Georgia Carroll '18 to bring it back to a two-goal game. The visitors continued to preserve their edge, climbing to 12 goals. Sara DiCenso '19 and Jenna McNicholas '19 hammered two shots past the Bantam goalie in between the two visitor goals.

After feeling the sting of another Bantam goal, something clicked for the Panthers. Middlebury picked up four goals within the next six minutes of play. Kate Zecca '20 was the first of the four, exploiting a perfectly executed pass from Carroll. The Panthers were now confident at a 14–12 lead and could not let their margin be ripped from their hands. In the final 10 minutes, the hosts allowed only one Trinity ball to enter their cage, while nailing two more shots past the Trinity goalie.

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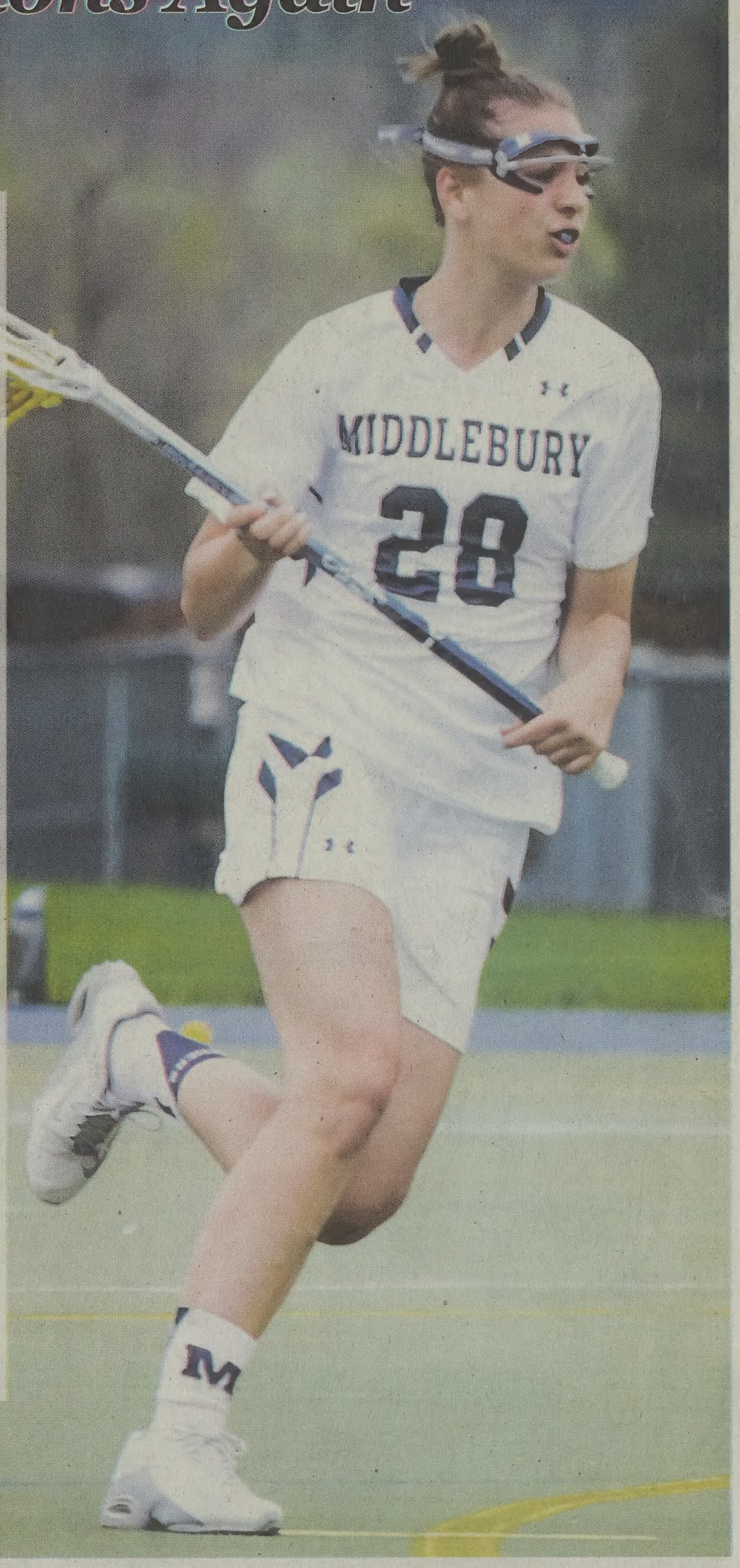


BENJY RENTON

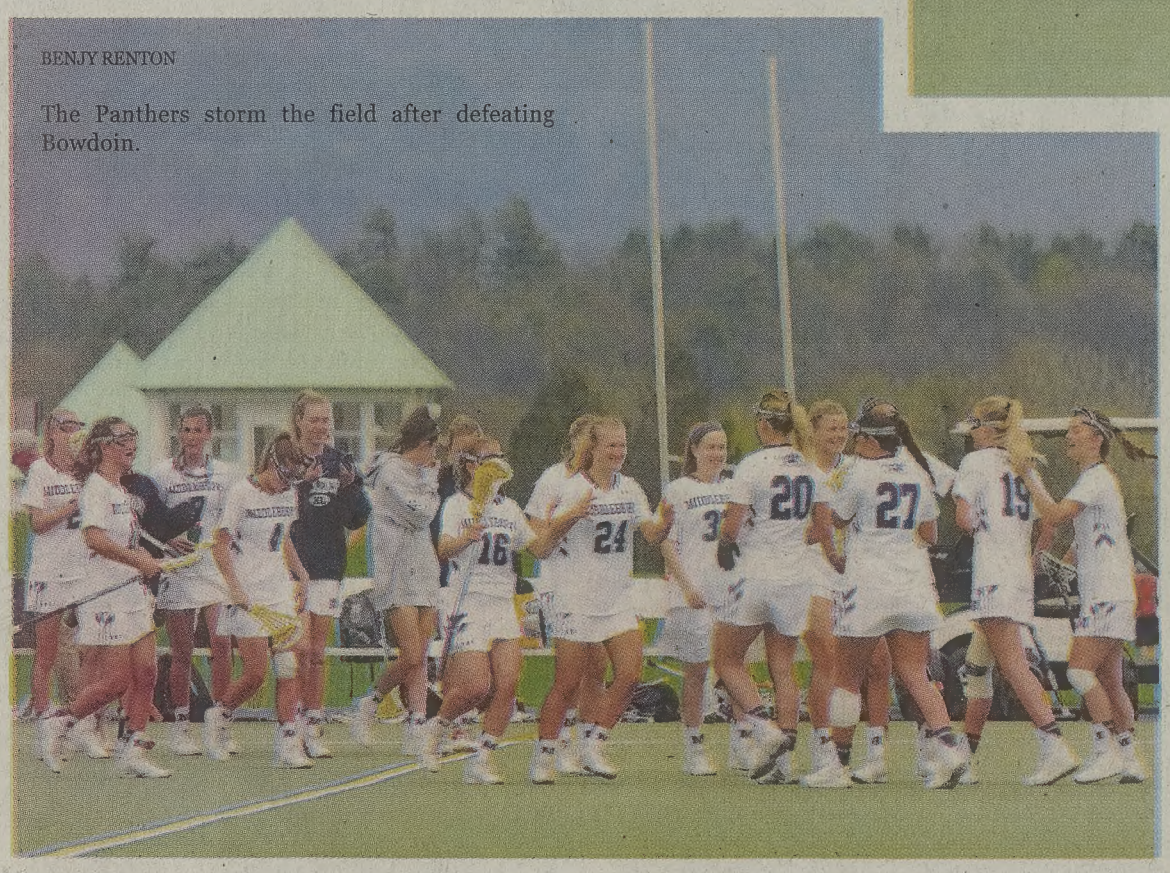
Casey O'Neill '19 earned Nescac Player of the Week for scoring the game-tying and game-winning goals against Trinity and the game-winner against Bowdoin in the championship.

BENJY RENTON

Campbell Goldsmith '19, Kate Furber '19, Sara DiCenso '19 celebrate the championship. .

CHRIS WRAIGHT

Emma White '21 defends a Polar Bear.



BENJY RENTON

The Panthers storm the field after defeating Bowdoin.

BENJY RENTON

Susanna Baker '19 carries the ball down the sideline in Sunday's game.